

SHOP  
EARLY

# The Daily Colonist.

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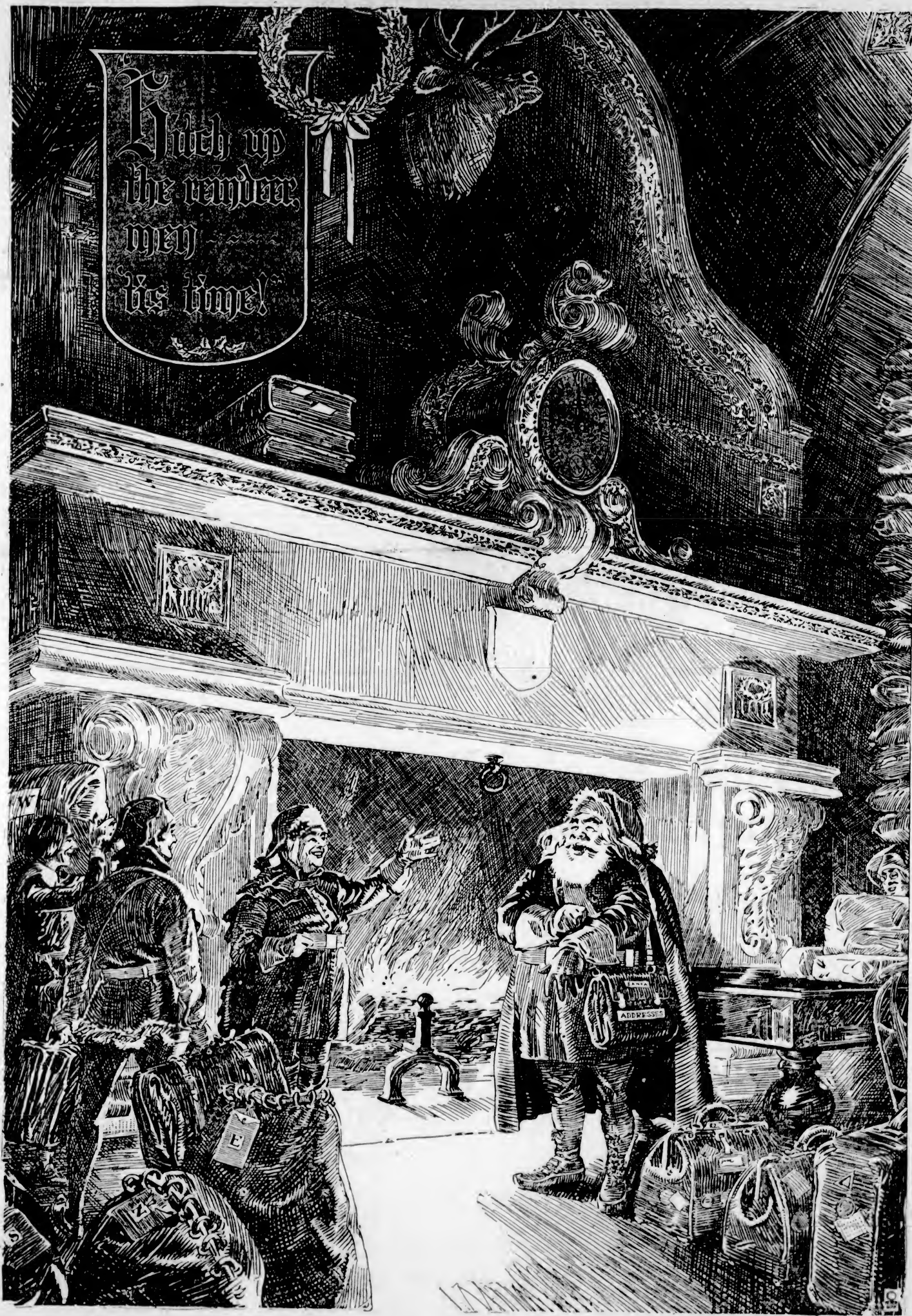
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VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1926

SIXTEEN PAGES

## Christmas Edition





# Shop Early pleasures



Anticipating a larger volume of Christmas business than was experienced at the festive season last year, merchants of Victoria have bought large stocks of seasonable goods, and have a wide and varied selection of appropriate holiday suggestions to offer to their patrons.

General indications of Christmas buying reveal the likelihood of the public commencing to make its purchases early this year. The "Shop Early" slogan, which was inaugurated two years ago, proved very successful, and both customers and merchants benefited through its adoption.

The approach of Christmas is brought home to all by the increased number of people to be seen daily on the downtown streets and in business houses, a large number already having made out lists of the names of those whom they intend remembering with gifts at the festive season, and are doing their shopping before the

usual rush commences, and while the service in the stores is at its very best. From all appearances those who are confident of this Christmas season eclipsing the past few years in volume of business will have their expectations and hopes realized, and those who follow the "Shop Early" policy will undoubtedly be the farthest ahead in the long run.

"It is a well-known fact that thirty or forty years ago, late shopping was so common that clerks and all store folks just hated Christmas," says Marjorie Howe Dixon. "It was to them a terrible nightmare. They felt entitled to two weeks in a sanitarium after it was all over—and some way, there never was any allowance for that, you know."

Be Kind to the Clerks  
"And then people got together and said: 'Why, if there is any such thing as a Christian spirit, we ought to pass

it around. The clerks would like to enjoy Christmas as much as we would. And instead of sending them all to bed Christmas Day, in a state of nervous prostration, just let's plan a little better.' The result is the annual 'Shop Early' campaign. Goodness knows we all can stand being reminded."

Rewards for Early Shoppers  
"In fact, special services should be held somewhere, some time over a memorial, 'To the Unknown Citizen who always finished his shopping early.' Were such a memorial erected, it would be covered with wreaths of holly from grateful people who had journeyed from afar to lay thereon a token of their regard."

## YULETIDE FIR HAS HISTORY AS SYMBOL

Tale is Told of Legend of First Christmas Tree and Its Meaning

Their snow-covered branches sparkling in the light that gleams out through the hospitable store-fronts, young firs and spruce may be seen reposing in many a place on the busy city streets as Christmas approaches. As the great day gets nearer they gradually disappear to provide joy to tiny tots in homes of rich and poor until only a few sad trees are left to gradually droop.

Glistening with tinsel, hung with presents of all sorts, they make rooms cheerful and colorful. Warm and comfortable, the children shout with joy at this feature of Christmas Day.

The First Christmas Tree  
Far different were the circumstances surrounding the dedication of the first Christmas tree. It was, so Henry van Dyke says, in one of the snowy countries of Northern Europe. The crops had been very bad that year. The hunting was even worse. And one tribe of the hardy inhabitants was in sad straits. Everything had been

tried until only the ancient sacrificial ceremony was left. Some one had to die to appease the gods.

One day, no different, apparently, from other days, the tribe was gathered about the great oak tree, which was the centre of their religion. The chief druid was preparing to make the dreadful sacrifice, and the choice fell upon a beautiful child, one of the most popular of the young ones.

Nothing, it seemed, could save the youngster. Then, across the snow came striding a stranger of commanding stature. A glance, a sharp exclamation, a slash or two and the doomed child was released. The stranger told the horrified assemblage of one who was more powerful than their gods. When doubt was expressed he turned and to their utter terror commenced to chop down the oak which was the symbol of their religion. They expected to see a thunderbolt devastate the desecrator any moment. But nothing happened until the tree fell with a crash.

Fir a Symbol  
Then they did believe. The stranger cut down a little fir tree. This, he said, would be the symbol of good-will and good fortune which would typify that day, the day, he said, on which the Christ-child was born and which was called Christmas. So did the fir tree become the symbol of Christmas.

## THE WOMAN'S HEART WINS WITH SANTA

Kris Kringle's Great Allies in All Parts of the World Are Gender Sex

Though the feminine advance has not yet swept over the Arctic realm beyond the cloud where Kris Kringle stables his reindeer and manufactures his multi-colored marvels, the bearded playboy has a distinct partiality for all good and lovely ladies, as anyone familiar with his history can testify.

In fact, it has become more and more evident lately that practically all of Kris Kringle's ablest lieutenants are women. This really has always been the case, though there existed for a while an apparent dependence on worthy family papas which tended to obscure the truth. Now it is plainly the woman to whom Santa Claus looks for inspiration and on whom he depends for the detailed execution of his Christmas plans. So closely co-operative has this association become that it amounts to a conspiracy—a conspiracy without which the Christmas festival would be an empty ritual.

For who but the woman in the home would know with a professional certainty the particular and only thing

## Some Thoughts for Christmas Season Make World Happier

- Open a Christmas savings account for next year?
- Mail your presents before the rush?
- Wish everyone a Merry Christmas?
- Decorate your own Christmas tree?
- Fill a Christmas basket for the poor?
- Hang holly wreaths in your windows?
- Read Dickens' Christmas Carol?
- Sing Christmas songs?
- Visit all your local friends?
- Have a greeting for every child you meet?
- Take the children to see Santa Claus in the local stores?
- Tell stories around the grate fire?
- Go window shopping?
- Keep your Christmas tree up until New Year?
- Remember the old folks?
- Hang up your stockings?
- Leave your packages closed until Christmas?
- Have the Christmas spirit?
- Recall the day when you were a youngster?
- Give useful Christmas presents?
- Put on a Christmas smile?
- Get up early Christmas morning?
- Place your Christmas tree near the window where it can be seen from the street?
- Enjoy the happiness of others?
- Recall the day when you were a youngster?
- Refrain from eating too much Christmas candy?
- Keep open house for your friends?
- Forget all your work and worries?
- Pass out Christmas cigars to your friends?
- Read the Christmas editorial in this newspaper?
- Give appropriate Christmas presents?
- Make this the best Christmas you ever had?

that would light up the heart of her tow-headed junior? Who but she would understand that no amount of expensive and ingenious novelties could have the appeal of a particular inconsequent knickknack that had somehow struck his fancy?

Likewise must Kris Kringle set up a conspiracy with some comprehending feminine intelligence when he takes up the faintly whispered wishes and half-facultated longings of those less fortunate children from the slums and the orphanages. There, too, the Genius of the Woman's Heart must give color and direction to the Christmas spirit.

Even when it is the girl herself who is the cause and object of these Christmas conspiracies, there is a suspicion abroad that she is still admitted to Kris Kringle's confidence. Does the ardent suitor know of himself the exactly appropriate token to



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Rings, extra special single diamond	\$15.00, \$20.00, \$25.00, \$35.00, \$50.00, and \$100.00
Brooches, diamond-set, \$15.00 to	\$500.00
Cuff Links, solid gold, \$4.00 to	\$25.00
Scarf Pins, gold, \$2.50 to	\$15.00
Diamond-Set Scarf Pins, \$10.00 to	\$75.00
Pendants, stone-set, solid gold mounting	\$5.00 to \$50.00
Gent's Signet Rings, gold, engraved	\$3.00 to \$20.00
Ladies' Colored Stone Vogue Rings	\$2.50 to \$25.00
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Gent's Thin Model Pocket Watches	\$10.00 to \$75.00

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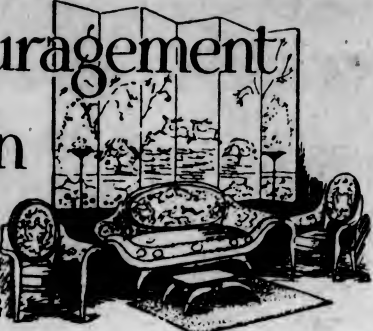
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VICTORIA





*By Marjorie Howe Dixon*



## The Conqueror's Christmas—1066

# Gifts for the Home

A line drawing of a small, ornate wooden chest or cabinet. It features three drawers on the front, with the top drawer having a decorative handle. The chest is supported by four legs, each with a turned, decorative top. The drawing is simple and appears to be a technical or illustrative sketch.

A black and white line drawing of a wooden chair. The chair has a high, rounded backrest with vertical slats. The seat is made of horizontal slats. The legs are simple and slightly tapered. There is a small decorative element on the right side of the backrest.

**OLD FURNITURE FOR NEW**  
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 r old and discarded furni  
 as part payment for new

A black and white line drawing of a bedroom. In the center is a bed with a canopy supported by four posts. The bed has a headboard and footboard with decorative carvings. A small wooden stool is placed at the foot of the bed. To the left of the bed is a large wooden dresser with multiple drawers. To the right is a smaller wooden nightstand with a clock on top. A small plant is visible in the bottom left corner.

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## draw sharp lines between Young Men's Styles and Others

Youth has strongly asserted itself in evolving suit and overcoat fashions for this winter. It has prescribed, or brought its influence to bear, upon those who design and dictate what shall be worn.

And it proclaimed its desires with no faltering or unaltered emphasis. Therefore, there are very definite lines of demarcation this season between young men's or college styles and the fashions that have their appeal to the more mature dresser.

From all of which arises this season a new model suit that is new in contrast to what has been worn in the recent season. The suit you'll see worn in "varsity" towns, the more fashionable "prep" schools and by that coterie of alumni who represent the "smart set" in society and the men "coming up" in the business world, is rather "dapper" model.

**The Suit of the College Set**  
It has a straight-hanging, loose set front to the coat and with it has very little "figure finding" in the back. Its outstanding characteristic is simplicity and neatness and is such a coat as you would expect the retired dresser to wear had not the "college man" encroached upon his domain and pre-empted the style as his own for this season at least.

It is very similar to what was known several seasons ago as "The Brooks" model—a style that took in New York and hardly anywhere else. It is very short, almost stubby lapels, buttons high up to the neck to a degree that conceals the vest entirely.

With all this prelude and prominence given to this model it will by

no means be the style of the masses or the majority. It is merely the outstanding new note of the season and for popular consumption the regulation sack coat will no doubt get a plurality of endorsement.

**What the Masses Will Wear**  
The sack suit is built on normal athletic lines. It has a moderate lapel, its lines are fairly form tracing giving both emphasis to the waist and chest both in front and in back and it has more than an average degree of shoulder that is not attained by padding but by good tailoring handwork, depending upon the sturdy figure to give a foundation for its robust appearance.

Then still maintaining its popularity is the double-breasted suit. Up until a year ago the double-breasted jacket was an outlier. Then it came back and has been coming back stronger for the last two seasons. This fall it still had a firm grip on the good dressers and even the school boys had taken up the style in preference to all other models.

**Blues Remain Popular**  
Whether it was the popularity for blue fabrics that made the double-breasted desired or whether it was the double-breasted that created the strength of blue fabrics is not known, but these two factors go so well together and became popular at about the same time and they both cling tenaciously in favor for the winter season.

That is why all sorts of blue cloths are having their day. There are the regulation blue serges, but the more distinctive weaves are the most

wanted. There are the unsharped chevrons, wide-weave weaves, diamond, diagonal, pineapple, herringbone and bird's-eye effects.

But not all the double-breasted suits are blue. Fancy effects are introduced with these double-breasted models and in both the double-breasted and the single-breasted sack, tans, browns and greys lead the color scheme with their relative prominence in the order quoted here.

**Greys Also in Good Taste**  
Greys were so extraordinarily popular during the summer, especially with the young men that they are expected to hold over this winter in the young men's styles, but the new trend as a compromise to the fellow that something different and up to date each season will find tans and browns are most variously shown.

Vests are cut higher in sympathy with the higher set lapels and single-breasted vests have the call even in the suits that have double-breasted coats. Both the lapel vest and lapelless vests are shown.

Trousers remain fairly wide, but not as wide as shown during the past few seasons. They are more shapely in leg formation and nearly all trousers have cuffs.

**Topcoats Mostly Tubular**  
There is not much difference between the styling of the topcoats and overcoats. A man of the weight of the cloth and the character of the weaves are the main distinguishing features.

The tubular effect is still the coat with just a shade more body lines than heretofore. The overcoat models

are a bit longer, ranging from forty-eight to fifty-two inches in length. These coats are for the most part plaid backs although there is shown a modified ulsterette with a half belt but long and tubular shaped in its general lines.

The next ranking coat in style calendar is a more form-fitting effect. It has broader lapels, more accentuated waist and just a suggestion of a flare in the skirt. It is for the man who is not tall enough to wear the severe tubular coat becomingly and for the man who likes the dash of figure effect.

**Chesterfield Coat Modified**  
Another coat that is quite strong with the conservative dresser is a modified Chesterfield. This coat is a bit longer than the regulation Chesterfield but its other characteristics are pretty much the same.

There are a variety of models. Some have the velvet collar; some are single-breasted; button-through, some are double-breasted button-through and some are single-breasted fly-front. Blue and black fabrics have the call in this type of coat.

The range of fabric weaves is wide for this winter. Heavy tweeds, chevrons, herringbones, Scotch, Shetlands, Meltons, Kerseys, Beavers, Friezes, Montagnacs, Chinchillas and numerous novelty weaves are shown in the types of coats described above, with the heavier and rougher cloth being also shown in the ulster, which never loses its place in the fashion or in the desire the man has for warmth and ruggedness above all else.

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## Spectres of Feast Appear Mysteriously

For many centuries tales have been told of spectres who haunt ancient homes at Christmas to look on no doubt with envious eyes at the revels of their successors in the flesh.

Strange and terrifying tales are told of the ghosts that gather at Glamis Castle, that grim and forbidding home of the family of Strathmore—of a bearded man who flits about at night and hovers over the beds of sleepers, of pale faces that peer through the windows and vanish to an accompaniment of shrieks; of sounds of hammering as if someone was putting up a scaffold. And these are by no means the greatest of the castle's terrors. It is said that a lady guest at the castle awoke one Christmas night to hear the moving of a soft body over the floor of her bedroom, and the crack of a bony joint, and then to see the outline of something luminous and horrid. Slowly she says, the thing, whatever it was, took shape. A body tawny and hunched, arms long and spindly, a large and terrible head covered with a tangled mass of grey hair, a face white and staring like a bony joint, malevolent in expression.

"As I stared at it aghast it reared itself on its hunches and leered hideously at me. Then, shuffling forward,

it rolled over and lay sprawling out like some ungainly turtle. At this juncture the handle of the door turned, someone entered, there was a loud cry, and the whole lower walls and rafters ring with the most appalling screams I have ever heard."

At Huddington Court you may see an avenue known as "Lady Wintour's Walk," along which, it is said, the Ghost of Lady Wintour, wife of one of the gunpowder plot conspirators is said to promenade. It was while speaking in this avenue during her lifetime that she heard the news of her husband's capture.

For three centuries the spirit of Lady Hothwell has visited Woodhouse, the house from which she was driven on Christmas night in 1488, half-clad, with her infant in her arms until death brought release. And the ghost of Lady Jane Grey is said to drive round the grounds of Bradgate House in Leicester every Yuletide, in a phantom carriage driven by four spectral grey horses.

Each Christmas Day, it is said, the "Radiant Boy" flits along the corridors of Corby Castle in Cumberland and stands by the bedside of the sleepers. The ghostly drum is heard the silence of the night at Courtchapel Castle. And the bad Lord Lonsdale's shade may be seen furiously driving his six-horsed coach in the grounds of Louth Castle.

### Mince, Pie Meaning

In that delightfully quaint work, "Pong Robin's Almanac" for 1895, we are seasonably encouraged by such comforting couplets as these:

"Now three welcome Christmas  
Which bring us up to cheer,  
Mince'd Pie and Plum Porridge,  
Good Ale and strong Beer."

The mince or "minced" pie has been the most innocent institution of the English home ever since the days of "once upon a time," so who would believe that politics, sedition, Puritanism and sinfulness could lurk within its narrow confines? Well, in truth at one time Christ the saviour and mince pies were looked upon as allies of his Saviour's Majesty and enemies to the commonwealth.

In the glorious and spacious reign of Good Queen Bess mince pies were called "minished" or "shrid," or "shred" pies, also Christmas pies. The three first words are to be found in most old dictionaries, and their meaning of course is obvious. Minced pies were formerly made in the shape of a cradle or cratch, a manger. The cradle idea was first derived from the practice at Rome of presenting the fathers of the Vatican with paste images and sweetmeats.

Yule cakes were a great feature. Yule dough, a little image of paste, was formerly baked at Yuletide, and presented by bakers to their customers, as Christmas candles are given by tallow chandlers. The manipulated Yule dough was undoubtedly intended for an image of the Child Jesus with the Virgin Mary. These cakes were figured with currants and were usually eaten with a basin of frumity on Christmas Eve with mince or shrid pie. These names occur constantly in ancient documents and records. Yule cakes were frequently cooked on a griddle, a kind of wired frying pan, over the big fire.

**Not at a Loss**  
A lady was describing her travels during the holiday in Switzerland. She told how she had seen the Lake of Geneva and Lac Leman.

"Rut," said one of her hearers, "the Lake of Geneva and Lac Leman are synonymous."

"Oh, yes, I know," she replied, but Lac Leman is the much more synonymous of the two.—The Motor, London

## CAROLS OLD AND NEW ARE BELOVED

Popular Stories Associated With Songs Popular to Yule Season

Since the first Christmas carol was written, 1,600 years ago, Yuletide has always been heralded with song, and at this season of the year we are made familiar with carols in many and various forms.

Yet the word was not always associated with Christmas. Authorities differ as to its derivation, opinions varying between Latin, Celtic and French. The word "carol" is undoubtedly old French and it is still used on the Marne to signify dance, etc. In olden days a carol was a ring dance with song accompaniment—a ring of men and women holding hands and moving round in dancing step, singing as they went. There are many references to the word carol in old English literature, as for instance, the following from Chaucer's "The Tale of Balanche the Duchesse" (1369).

"I saw her dance so comely,  
Carol and sing so sweetly."  
And this from Shakespeare:

"This carol they began that hour,  
With a hey and a ho and a hey nonino."  
As to the association with the word Christmas, Bishop Jeremy Taylor says: "The oldest carol was that sung by the heavenly host when the birth of the Saviour was announced to the shepherds on the plains of Bethlehem."

The earliest Christmas carol was written in the fourth century by Ambrosius Prudentinus. The oldest English carol is the "Angelus ad Virginem," contained in a church manuscript of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. The first English collection of carols was published by Wynken de Worde in 1531.

Proof of the antiquity of many English carols is to be found in the number of times the sources of origin is simply given as "traditional." This applies to such famous examples as "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" and "The Cherry Tree." The first named has been, and still is, frequently distorted by misprinted commas, making it "God Rest You, Merry Gentlemen." Even in Dickens' classic, "The Christmas Carol," the incorrect version appears. The sense intended is God rest (or keep) you merry at this season of the year.

Another famous "traditional" is "The Lord At First Did Adam Make," with its refrain "For This Is Christmas Eve." This is always sung on the last mentioned day in St. Paul's Cathedral.

No account of carols, however brief, would be complete without mention of "Good King Wenceslas." Another very ancient carol very popular among children is "I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In," "The First Nowell." And a very fine old carol, "Cradled in Bethlehem," composed by Orlando Gibbons, was unearthed by Frederick Bridge a few years ago from the archives of Westminster Abbey.

Some very beautiful carols are of French origin, such as "The Holly and the Ivy," "Now Ring We All Full Sweetly," and "The Carol of the Flowers."

Many modern English composers have written carols, especially J. B. Dykes, Sir J. Barnby, Sir J. Stainer and Sir P. Bridge. Typical specimens of their work are: "I Was in the Winter Cold," and "Sleep, Holy Babe."

**His Job**  
An old negro was met by a friend in a distant state. The friend asked: "What are you doing now, Sam?"

"I'm a minning, sir." "Minning, what kind of minning?" Sam answered.

"I'm kalsminning, sir."

The Romance of British Columbia No. 63  
1774-1926

CORNER OF CARRALL AND WATER STS. THE DAY AFTER THE FIRE.

HERE is real romance. While the ruins of their homes and stores still smouldered, the indomitable citizens of Vancouver started to build anew. The council met out of doors, business resumed in shacks and hollow trees. Thus was the foundation of Vancouver, as we know it today, laid. We have yet with us many who passed through the fiery ordeal and helped to build anew upon the ashes.

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### The Bride's Shopping

What would the joke-smith's do without the bride in the butcher shop —although she really is not there

very often in these modern days—or, rather, not many of them are there very often. Out of this week's gleanings one of them asks for a

roast of beef "with lots of gravy, please!" and another one for mince-meat in which "the mince is nice and tender."



## Hints

for  
a Yuletide  
Bazaar

By Marjorie Hume Dixon

Among artists a certain tone of red and a certain green are called "Merry Christmas." That's all right for artists, but when it's Christmas—one just can't get away from red and green altogether. They belong, and one has to use them.

In arranging for a Christmas bazaar—it would be quite possible to have a number of other colors beside red and green. Why not start with the rainbow for your color scheme and carry that out, assigning to each booth one color and permitting white to be combined with it? The red and green would take their place in this plan, but not side by side.

## Pictures a Church Room

A pleasant large room in one church comes to mind. It has a wide fireplace in one corner, and along the wall is a sort of counter over which things can be passed to and from the kitchen.

The entrance is opposite. If one were to start with violet for the candy booth, blue for the baby booth, green would be the color for the group around the hearth. Then would come yellow, which might be assigned to a box booth, then orange for the embroidery. Red could be used for cakes and preserves, and pink for household wares. We have purposely omitted indigo and have substituted pink.

## Idea Shows Seven Booths

There, that is a sort of general color plan with seven booths suggested. Now to go further. Some booths could carry out their color all through the main decoration on the booth itself. Others could use their color for a background for a varied color scheme. But the effect on entering the room would be very good, also very homelike, for the hearth—well, let's walk right over to the hearth.

You see, we've just come in from out-of-doors and it's pretty cold outside. And the hostess at the hearth says tea and cakes are ten cents and we will just have that, while we are looking around. Tables and chairs would belong to the hearth for serving. And green and white would be so pretty for its decoration, with pine boughs if they are available, and simulated snow crystals. Tiny sprays of holly might be on sale here, for buttonholes to wear or to tie on one's Christmas packages.

And speaking of packages, there's that awfully interesting box booth with its yellow and white trimmings, next to us, as we sip our tea, and we must go there at once and examine those fascinating boxes. There are large boxes decorated with wallpaper on the floor outside and piled up are smaller holiday boxes.

## Set on One's Dresser

There are painted wooden boxes,

one or two with mirrors inside the cover. The mirror boxes have hinged lids and are to set on one's dresser. Then there is no end of adorable small boxes and even a tray or two. Well, we will be back because after we've selected a few gifts we will have to have pretty boxes for sending them in.

Next comes the embroidery booth with a pleasant background of orange. How pretty the linens look against it, and the black aprons and house dresses! Beside all the linens, bridge sets, lunch sets, guest towels and tea towels, there is a pile of bags, bags for every possible use. And what do these bags, bright colors in felt, compose? Oh, to be sure, it is a holder for a hot handle on a teapot. The shape is a parrot and he has fine red wings and a green tail, with a yellow head and shoe buttons for eyes. The parrots will not last long, for everyone is buying them.

## Cakes and Preserves

As we pass to the next booth we grow hungry again, for here are cakes and preserves, with red and white for their background colors. Small jars of preserves are arranged in a box for a gift, each with its white cap and label. A basket for an invalid is a good idea, with fruit cake in a gay tin box, small jars of preserves, a box of fancy cookies and some candied fruit, all neatly wrapped. And the cakes, well, you know how thrilling Dickens could do justice to these cakes.

Next, we come to the household booth, where all sorts of novelties are for sale. There are ever so many serviceable articles made of pebbled cloth with painted designs. There are aluminum treasures of all kinds—a painted salt and pepper set, painted spice sets, a crumb tray and scraper, measuring spoons, cookie cutters, well—surely one can select gifts for most any member of the family at this booth. Orange has been festively used for the booth, with bows and streamers, and you have no idea how frivolous a cake tin feels with an orange sash tied about its waist, with flying ends.

## Hungry Once More

This brings us back to the entrance, but we have no intention of leaving. For just beyond is the candy booth and we are hungry again. So we will buy some to eat, and some to send away. Violet is the color here and it has been used most effectively. Everyone has brought out their favorite recipes, and most delicious confections have resulted. The boxes to send away have been thoughtfully arranged, and if truth were told, some of these bought with the best sort of gift intention will never get

farther than home, and there at home—well, it is strange the trick candy has of evaporating.

There is wild excitement next door and we must see why. There's a grab bag for the youngsters, that's one reason, and toy balloons are being sold, that's another. Blue is the official color for this booth, but balloons just had to be different, and we like the way they have been tied to the top of the booth, and are flying about in a most carefree manner.

## Booth of Baby Things

At one end of the booth is a section for baby things and the other end sells toys. We shall have to see all the running baby things, clay dresses, bibs, knitted jacket time, of course, all kinds of rattles, quite properly made of eatable materials (that is, the paint will not come off). Baby will like best of all to sample that interesting object that rattles so fascinatingly.

A plan for a bazaar can include many more booths and other ideas for things that will sell quickly. This plan is a rather simple one, through which the Yuletide spirit must freely run, to make it that success it should be.

Origin of Christmas  
Tree Is Veiled in Legend

Though the "festive evergreens" are so ancient that their history is buried under the sands of time, the institution of the Christmas tree in English-speaking countries is comparatively recent. It was the Germans who introduced the tree into England, where its transference is attributed to Prince Albert, who retained his German tastes and gratified them at court.

In France the Christmas tree was quite unknown until some years ago, but it has been introduced with other customs by way of England. Italy has its Christmas tree, but it takes so many forms there that it becomes scarcely recognizable. In Florence, for instance, it appears as a kind of basket made of straw.

## From China

Originally the Christmas tree is thought to have come from the land of the "heavenly Chinese." In the records of the Tsin dynasty, which ended 247 B.C., and from the name of which our word China is derived, interested delvers have discovered that a tree of a hundred lamps and flowers was placed at the entrance to the audience hall. The celebrated Princess Yang, the all-powerful favorite of the Emperor Ming Huang, A.D. 713-756, caused a "hundred-lamp tree" eighty-nine feet high, to be erected upon a high mound.

## In the Old Days

What has been aptly called "a beautiful phase in popular superstition," a very old belief was that all the powers of evil lay dormant and harmless on Christmas Day.

The cock crowed through the livelong night to drive all evil spirits away; the bees sang in their winter hives; the cattle, half human at all times, became wholly so at midnight and talked like human beings. The streets in many places were filled with mummers in fantastic garb. Indeed there were mummers in the days when Saturnalia reigned over even the Roman Emperors, but they were not necessarily of the Christmas time. The love for masquerade is almost as old as the human race itself.

But, as to the day itself, it was then, as it is now, a very merry day, with good fellowship bubbling even from hearts where theological non-belief dwelt—a day sacred to the family, to the eating of roast turkey and cranberry sauce or roast beef and plum pudding and walnuts and the drinking of beer, ale and wine.

It has changed to some extent since the old day, but it is still the happiest day of all the year, and the shadow of misfortune does not cloud the sky.

## The Turkey

(Tablet)  
How blessed, how envied, were our life. Could we but escape the poultryer's knife! But no, curd's man, on turkey's prey.

And Christmas shortens all our days; Sometimes with oysters we combine. Sometimes assist the savory chine; From the low peasant to the lord, The turkey smokes on every board.

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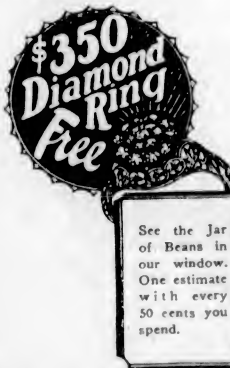
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Clocks

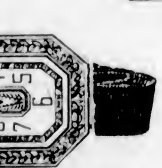
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# Tableaus for a Christmas Program

By Marjorie Hoon Dixon

As a possible variation in a Christmas programme, it might be a pleasant change to have one or more tableaux, in which a number of children could take part, and places found for those of different ages.

If the children have been reading Uncle Remus, all about Brer Rabbit and his adventures, they might enjoy making a Bunny Christmas Festival.

Costumes for bunnies are not difficult to make. White Canton flannel is soft and pretty to use or white material. Hoods fitting closely around the face are the principal part of the costume, with stuffed ears standing up from them. White pajama suits with feet in them, and mittens without thumbs will complete the outfit.

**Christmas Tree as Background**  
The youngsters should be encouraged to observe rabbits as to get as many interesting poses as possible. Failing the live animals pictures can be studied. A Christmas tree can be a background for the group with bunnies arranged around it. The centre point of interest might be a small bunny reaching up for a carrot given to it from the tree by a larger rabbit. And, of course, the tree should be trimmed with carrots.

If the children have been reading Dickens' "Christmas Carol" they might like to arrange a scene from that for a tableau. Bob Cratchit's Christmas is most popular, and in

that the fireplace would be the centre. If an illustrated copy of the Carol is available the costumes could be studied and copied as well as possible with the materials at hand.

The general scene of domestic contentment in spite of adversity is always appealing, and the children will love portraying it.

**Own Version of Santa Claus**

The younger children have a deeper interest in Santa Claus. They might be encouraged to arrange their own version of Santa and his pack, his reindeer, his climb down the chimney and the usual stockings hanging on the mantelpiece. If it were brought out that they must supply all the suggestions for costumes and background and arrangement, some very interesting ideas might result.

The grown-ups might have to restrain their desire to laugh, but that they could do. Some children love planning things of this sort, and it is valuable experience for them to have to carry out their ideas within the limits of practical possibility.

Christmas for the birds has been suggested before, but may be considered again. This could be approached in two ways. One tableau could show the children arranging food for the birds, with an out-of-door setting. Or another tableau could be staged, with the birds busy eating. Bird costumes, with visor caps made to resemble beaks, and

caps caught at the wrists, for wings, would not be too difficult to make. Colors could be varied according to the birds represented.

**Christmas in Hospital**

If an appeal is made for welfare work, a tableau showing Christmas in a hospital might be arranged. A child propped up in bed with pillows would be the centre of the group with children in out-of-door clothes seated around him. A nearby table would have a small Christmas tree, with packages might be heaped upon the bed, with the child holding up a toy he has just unwrapped.

The dolls' Christmas would interest the kindergarten age youngsters. They could each contribute a doll, and plan the setting of the doll's celebration. A tiny tree with tiny candles would be pretty or a small fireplace, with tiny stockings hanging from it. If the children are allowed to plan and make as much of this tableau as they are able, they will enjoy it more. And it will be sure to be original.

**A Doll's Christmas**

And with this tableau, when the curtain rises on the fair scene, softly lighted with candles, there can be one thing sure, and that is that not one of the characters will move, nor as much as blink an eye. And if some dolls are large and others small the effect will be pleasing, none the less, and every one will be sure to enjoy the Doll's Christmas.

Claus is the same by a different pedigree. Dutch St. Nicholas who went to New Amsterdam and entered England from the United States. In Italy it is the fairy Befana (i.e. Epiphany) who brings the gift and she was once Diana.

Perhaps after all it is in the carols we get nearest to the real meaning of the day. The first Christmas hymn that we know was in Latin; and like all else at Christmas they blended several strains—popular rhythm, Latin theology, New Testament story. But they were too heavily theological. St. Ambrose was a great man indeed, but he is not always for family singing.

Very Redemptor. Christmas begins detail physiological rather than spiritual.

Of course there were Latin poets in the Middle Ages who had more than dogma to sing, thoughts more congenial to simple lovers of the Child of Bethlehem.

Fac me vere congaudere  
Jesuino cohaere  
donec ego vixerò.

("Make me truly to rejoice with thee, to cleave to the little Jesus, as long as I live.")

In one land and another the familiar episodes come into a homely song that reaches the heart. Here are the shepherds—from a Spanish carol, but also here in prose now:

I am a poor gypsy, who come hither  
baptized god of the North, Odin, who loved to wander in the dark. Santa

I am a poor Galician who come from Galicia and bring to God's Child linen for a shirt.

To the new-born child all bring a gift; I am little and have nothing; I bring him my heart.

This is like the carol Luther made for his little son Hans:

("From heaven above to earth I come.")

Ah, Lord who has created all,  
How hast thou made thee weak and small.

That thou must choose Thy infant bed  
Where we and our ox have lately fed!

Ah, dearest Jesu Holy Child,  
Make thee a bed soft undefiled  
Within my heart that it may be  
A quiet chamber kept for thee.

The three Kings into whom the Magi grew have figured bravely in the medieval plays and they have had a theological meaning put into their gifts.

Kings come from diverse lands  
With gifts of gold, frankincense and myrror  
In Bethlehem the child they found  
By starlight and by candle.

Here is a Cornish picture of the child in the manger: "Coal black as cherries are his eyes, the rest of him white as chalk. His pretty hands are right tender and delicate; I touched him carefully. Then he gave me a smile and a deep sigh, too. If you were mine thought I you would grow a merry boy. At home in the kitchen I'd comfortably house you; out here in the stable the cold wind comes in at every corner."

It is to be feared that most or many of the familiar English carols are modern.

**Holly Tree Associations**

The holly has always stood for mystery and plant personality. Always one feels that it is something more than an ordinary "small tree." From time immemorial it has played its part in the great Winter festival—the Romans gave it an honored place in their Saturnalia—and when Christianity superseded the old gods and the festival became Christmas, still the holly and its association with the Winter rejoicing continued, though into both festival and tree new meaning was read.

The holly though openly a part of the rejoicing of the Nativity yet held within it the secret mystic fore-shadowing of a crown of thorns in its prickly leaves, of cups of passion blood in its red berries and a reminder of immortality in the ever sameness of its leaves. And as it became the "Holy Tree," as well as the "Holly Tree."

It is the tree with scarlet berries that is always spoken of as the real holly, and it has often been accounted strange that certain her trees never produce berries, but the initiated know that this mystery is one of sex, for one set of holly trees is male and another is female, and, of course, it is only the female trees that bear fruit. The work of the male tree is done when they have supplied the fertilizing pollen, fertilization being generally accomplished by the busy bees flying from flower to flower and tree to tree.

## HATS FOR FALL STRIKE NEW TONES

Attractive Offerings in Headgear Indicate Return to Natural Shades

The flippant brim which has been in vogue, off and on, for a number of years, promises to come back stronger than ever in men's hats this Fall.

This style made great headway last Spring and the momentum of six months will show itself during the early Fall months.

Advance information gained from reliable sources, such as leading makers and foremost retailers, points to a season in which the turned-down brim will share the honors of the season on a fifty-fifty basis with the fedora or alpine shape.

**Young Fellow Takes Rakish Style**

This is particularly true concerning the styles that will be worn by the younger fellows and this class includes the collegian, who likes something that is rakish, instead of set and formal.

It is true that the ever-popular fedora shape which has been in good taste for many years, will continue to hold its many followers. This is the style that is favored by the man who prefers the conventional; the man who is set in his ways.

Outside of the shapes and shades of the last year there are no really radical differences in either the snap-down or fedora hats.

The one noticeable innovation will be the bow, which some makers are placing at the back of the hat instead of the side. Whether or not this idea will win favor among the smarter dresser is doubtful, but it will definitely be decided until the season is well advanced.

**Darker Shades in Bands**

Last Spring the fancy band on felt hats was worn extensively, but it is the belief of stylists that men will revert back to the sombre bands—such as plain colors or black, brown, tans and greys. There will, of course, be a number of bands shown with narrow stripes to offset the severity of hats.

As for colors, browns, light greys and light tans will have the popular call. There also will be various tones of these. Some greens will be displayed, but not as extensively as in past seasons. This color while in favor in certain sections never has come universally to the front, so will be hereafter regarded as an also ran.

**Two Hats a Season**

Hat makers are endeavoring to put across a campaign—two hats a season. And for Fall a felt and derby make up the programme. Of course, the alternate wearing of them is conducive to better dress—and incidentally keeps both in better condition.

Just how strong the derby will be this season also is a matter that cannot be decided right now. In the Far East this hat is coming to the fore and it is believed that the trend of style will move westward in time. As for caps the eight-piece style has the greatest following. Only a small percentage of one-piece caps are being shown. In most instances light, rich, all-over patterns prevail.

## Christmas Spells Recall Middle Ages

Christmas in the old days teemed with spells and omens and if our ancestors faithfully observed them all they certainly deserved to have the best of luck during the ensuing year. Here are a few of their most cherished superstitions for the coming season:

Draw water from a clear well on Christmas morning and you draw good luck to all those who drink it.

Put money into as many different houses as possible during the Christmas season; for according to the number of houses so will you have good luck during the coming year.

Embrace as many friends as possible beneath the mistletoe for those who kiss beneath the Christmas mistletoe will never quarrel.

The burning of the Yule log was a great event. It was dragged in with songs and rejoicing and placed on the fire, the larger the better, for Yule log flames of all ailments of women and anger, and brought peace and goodwill of all who warmed themselves in its heat. None was allowed to stir the fire for fear of breaking its beneficial influence; no quinqueting or barefooted person was allowed to enter the room while it was burning. For this brought poverty and poor sight to the household. It was thought unlucky, too, for an odd number of persons to be in the room at Christmas and a charred piece of the log was carefully saved and preserved in the cellar during the following year; this was an infallible security against all danger of fire.

## 'Twas the Night Before Christmas

Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring—not even a mouse;

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

Bayly

The mistletoe hung in the castle hall, The holly branch shone on the old oak wall;

And the Baron's retainers were blithe and gay, And keeping their Christmas holiday.

Longfellow

Shepherds at the manger, Where the Babe was born, Rang with many a change Christmas carols until morn.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day, Their old familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat

Of peace on earth, good-will to men! Hail to the King of Bethlehem, Who watch in his diadem The yellow crocus for the gem Of his authority!

Shelley

"Yesterday we had beef," said the husband. "It seems, as a matter of economy, we should have boiled the bone for soup today."

"No bone came," said the new bride, "but I could have boiled the can."



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# Don Quixote's Christmas Adventure

Don Quixote awoke and stretched himself sleepily. Rosinante still slept, leaning his tired old head against a tree. Sancho Panza snored vigorously, while his grey mule dropped the grass at his feet, now and then taking last bite hit the flesh and roused a bite out of the toe of his boot. The Rancho, who leaped to his feet and chased the mule with many maledictions.

Don Quixote considered them both dreamily, but when the Squire returned astride the mule, a sudden memory struck him. Was it not thus, Sancho Panza, that he had started them on their adventure, Sancho astride the grey mule, and he on the good Rosinante, that mighty steed, of whose skin and bones he saw nothing, having in imagination clothed him with mighty muscles and sinews of steel?

## Rosinante Quivers All Over

"What! Rascally clown! Hast thou not searched me out a brave adventure, this fair morn?" shouted he to Sancho, with such vehemence as to cause Rosinante to start and quiver all over. "Ever sleeping, dullard, though centuries passed over thee, still wouldst thou lack an idea." As, indeed, centuries had passed over both, and little did either know.

"Sir, Don Quixote," quoth Sancho.

"Lead on, I follow." With the greatest difficulty the valiant knight, climbed into his saddle. He guided the good Rosinante along a gravelly path into a wide avenue, on the one side of which strange monsters raced madly in one direction and on the other of which they raced equally as madly in the other direction, snorting and grunting at each other. Of a sudden a red light flashed on. Thereupon all the monsters ceased to speed madly and drew up in groups on either side of the tower at the foot of which stood a stout figure clothed in blue, with a good oaken staff at his belt.

## They Observe a Marvel

For a long moment Don Quixote and Sancho Panza observed this marvel and then another marvel, for the red light disappeared and above it the green appeared, whereupon all the monsters dashed forward at such a speed as though they would be sure to strike each other. For all that, and before the valiant Don Quixote and his good squire had scarce drawn a deep breath, the red light appeared again and all stopped racing, snorting, however, and anxious to be off. "There are the famous Racing Monsters," quoth the Don. "And

these shall I attack alone, that the good favor of my Dulcinea of Toboso may be won, and the world well rid of a strange and mighty peril."

"Say, nay!" quoth Sancho. "Good Sir Knight, let me beg of you to let them be. Is it not a purpose of all knights-errant to rescue those in distress? Let me ask you brave man, who doth not fear them, where some good folk may be, toward whom all these monsters fling themselves."

## Seeks Another Adventure

"Go then and return right quickly," quoth the Knight, "for I would seek a new and fair adventure." Again, the red light caused that great marvel that all the monsters should stop together, and so trotting at his best speed, Sancho Panza reached the stout man.

"Good Sir," said he with tremulous voice, for the monsters snorted either side of him and seemed only too anxious to run him down. "My master yonder—"

"Watch your step!" shouted the blue clad one as he clutched the mule's bridle. "Now, what is it?"

## Monsters Make Rush

Sancho could not find words, for the monsters had shot forward again and he found himself between two swiftly moving streams. The next pause, he gasped—

"My Master would succor those in distress!"

"What?"

"My Master would help those in distress!"

"Oh, I thought you were advertising something. It's the Good Fellows, you want I guess, here, take this street to that number. They will fix you up."

Sancho returned to his master in the next pause of the monsters.

"We are to go a number," said he, "on this street."

## Study the Buildings

After studying the buildings opposite for sometime, they discovered that each bore a number in a sequence, and that their number might be close by.

Keeping on the soft grass and out of the path of the monsters they rode until they found the number opposite the required number. A full in the race of monsters gave them opportunity to cross the dangerous path-way safely. Rosinante was delighted to find a small bubbling fountain on a white pedestal.

Right eagerly did he quench his thirst. The mule was tied to a post with a metal box on it, and the good Don gave himself over to meditation.

tions on his Dulcinea while Sancho went indoors.

## Strange Person Appears

Clad in blue, with much handsome gold braid, a strange person approached him.

"My Master would help those in distress," quoth Sancho as before. "We were sent here—be, the stout one with the truncheon saith—to the Good Fellows—wherever they may be."

"Here, step in, ninth floor, Good Fellows."

And Sancho walked into a tiny room with much gold paint and mirrors.

In a moment he staggered against the wall, and clutched at his poorly waist, for the room seemed to be rising at a breathless speed.

His heart leaped, and fell, for the room stopped rising and the courteous person who guided it said, "Ninth floor, please, first door to the right for Good Fellows."

Manhattan in December.

As the door opened a blonde young man seated at a desk closed his book with a sigh—it was "The Delightful History of the Most Ingenious Knight, Don Quixote of the Mancha." He stared at the intruder and rubbed his eyes and pinched himself and stared again. It was the Squire, no less—and this was Manhattan in December.

"You are Sancho Panza, as I live—Holy Mackerel! How come you here?"

"Strange thou shouldst know me, though I have not the honor of knowing thee," said Sancho, "no doubt my master's fame reached thine ears. The valiant Don Quixote of the Mancha—it is he who has sent me here to relieve those in distress."

"Food for Christmas Dinner?"

"To be sure, to be sure—let us go to him at once? Has he many ducats do you think? For with these we can buy food for those who would otherwise want for it and relieve their distress." (Thus came the language easily to the blonde young man, for he had but closed the book.)

Sancho would not try the little youth that had shot up, so down many stairs they walked and found the Don at the curbstone.

"Come with me," said the young man, and led them into a rich and mighty market where strange foods and fruits were displayed for sale. Of these they bought great quantities and went forth again to a number standing quietly at the curb.

"Sit with me, Squire, and you, Sir Knight, guard these foods in the rear seat."

## Relieves Self of Bundles

Clumsily Don Quixote disposed himself with all the bundles while the Squire sat beside the young man in the front part of the monster. Suddenly with a snort it shot forward and joined the other racing monsters. And all day long, Don Quixote, the Squire and the Blonde Young Man gave out food for Christmas eating to those who were poor and in distress or want.

You say this pleasant tale wants proof? For that, you are referred to the Blonde Young Man, who fell asleep over the History of Don Quixote of the Mancha. For thus did these things happen in December in that great city of Manhattan. Yp-himo boni boni humh boni humh

## Old World Waits

In the British Isles and on the Continent there is a delightful custom of carol-singing in the streets. In North America, however, people are supposedly too shy to adopt this method of spreading the "tidings of great joy" and keep their carols and songs for indoor and Sunday School performance.

The "Christmas waits" of London are an old-established feature of the customs of the season. They are at it long before daybreak and keep it up during the morning hours. Sometimes the singers are singing for the pure pleasure of it, and with a feeling of duty fulfilled. Generally, however, they look for a gratuity from those whose alms they have broken.

Writers attribute this custom of singing to the "Gloria in Excelsis" of the angels announcing the birth of Christ. Originally the songs were carols of the best sort on purely appropriate subjects. This is still the case in remote parts of England, and the tradition is maintained in Wales. In the larger cities of England popular airs from the theatres are used.

The custom is kept up with much vigor in Italy and Spain. The Galician shepherds come down from their hills into the Italian cities to sing their carols through the streets. Occasionally they are noted singing before a carpenter shop, and it is explained that they are honoring the memory of St. Joseph.

Borrowers. Teacher: We borrowed our numerals from the Arabs, our calendar from the Romans and our banking from the Italians. Can any one think of any other examples?

Billie: Our lawn-mower from the Smiths and our baby carriage from the Lunks.

Rejected. A man in the congregation was sleeping when the collection plate was passed. Suddenly aroused by the collector he said, very politely: "No, thank you, I don't smoke."

Business Man—"I'll bet you never sell any of these paintings."

Artist—"Certainly, Sir! Plenty of them!"

Business Man—"Drop into my office tomorrow—I need a good salesman."

# Spruce Up for Christmas!



The paint store of today is a store of a thousand unusual gifts. It is a store where you can buy gifts of personal appeal—a store where you can actually learn to make your own gifts without unusual talent or experience.

Below you will find a number of gift suggestions or things that you can yourself use to make gifts for all your friends.

There Is Still Time to Attend the

## Free Classes of "Jesso" and "Modello" Instruction

And Make Your Own Christmas Gifts

Water Color Sets—Highest grade colors, complete in black japanned box. \$5.00, \$4.00, \$2.75, \$1.00 to 50c

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"Peerless," \$45.00 Johnson's, \$48.50

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And others down to regular price \$2.00. Now \$1.50

And others down to regular price \$1.50. Now \$1.12

And others down to regular price \$1.00. Now \$75.00

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## Dr. Johnson and the Christmas Season

Eighteenth Century Memories

As we cast a retrospective glance along "Time's traveled avenues," it is interesting to note how the observance of Christmas has changed with the passage of the centuries. The artificial and expensive Christmas of today is a widely different affair from the Christmas of bygone days, and is almost entirely lacking in the spirit of hospitality and good fellowship which were the essence of the festival in the time of our forefathers. The development of rapid transit is undoubtedly the chief cause of the change; for the small communities in the country towns and villages were then cut off from the rest of the world, and were dependent on their own resources for their pleasure and amusements. Charles

Dickens, who is regarded as the writer who has shown more love for Christmas than any other author, stood at the parting of the ways, for he saw the dawn of the new era in which travelling was to be transformed and the barriers of distance broken down. Even between the Christmas of his day and your own the contrast is very marked, but if we look back to the previous century, through the greater part of which lived another literary luminary, Dr. Samuel Johnson, we shall find the change yet more striking and complete. It was not until some fifty-five years after the death of the great lexicographer that the first railway line was opened in England, and when he travelled to London from his boy-

hood's home at Lichfield, his only means of conveyance was by stage-coach. A journey to London in those days was a serious undertaking, for not only were the roads in an execrable condition, but they were infested with highwaymen, and we are told that anyone who "contemplated leaving by coach from the North for the British Capital in the middle of the Eighteenth Century planned the journey months in advance, consulted his lawyer and made his will."

London a smaller city. When Dr. Johnson came to London in 1737, with David Garrick, the famous actor, who had been one of his only three pupils at the ill-fated school for young gentlemen at Edial near Lichfield, they travelled by the Birmingham coach, which rested half a day at Oxford, for no one thought of incurring the risks of travelling by night at that period. The London they entered was a much smaller city than now, for its suburbs were unknown, and its streets presented a very different appearance from those of today. As the coach rattled over the cobbled streets, its way to the galleries of the old inn, its headquarters, the doctor and his companion saw no gorgeous displays beyond plate-glass windows in the shops, for the windows of those days were formed of small squares which, even when "boxed," as they frequently were, offered more opportunity for inspecting the goods within. To the traveller who arrived after nightfall, London must indeed have appeared a dismal city, for the sole illumination consisted of oil lamps, whose feeble light served but to accentuate the surrounding darkness. Those were the days, too, of flint, and steel, for matches had not been invented, and a tinder-box with its outfit was a necessary adjunct on every mantelpiece.

"Roast Beef and Plum Pudding." Christmas housekeeping at this period left nothing to be desired, both as to quantity and quality, judging from the menu placed before his guests by a certain London worthy merchant. It included turkey, geese, capons, roast beef, brawn "puddings of a dozen sorts, and mince-pies in abundance." Dr. Johnson was a confirmed hypochondriac, and in after years had to give up all spirituous liquors, there is every reason to suppose he enjoyed the pleasures of the table at Christmas. When his great friend, Mrs. Traill, cooled off in her friendship, she decided that the doctor had "served him for my conversation than for my roast beef and plum-pudding, which he now devours too dirtily for endurance."

As Dr. Johnson was a great lover of children, we may safely picture him at the Christmas party joining merrily in "Blind-man's-buff," "Puss-in-the-corner," "Hide-and-Seek," or "Questions and Commands," which were then recognized diversions for both old and young. Cards and dice were also highly popular with the adults. All ranks of society joined in the Mummings or Maquering, which then formed an important feature of the Yuletide festivities, both in town and country, and the characters were often very elaborate creations. The most notable innovation in Dr. Johnson's time was the introduction of the Christmas pantomime, by John Rich, at his theatre in Lincoln's Inn Fields—a feature which was repeated annually, to the disgust of Garrick, who found it to withdraw patrons from the drama. At the Christmas of 1741 he brought out a farce, written by himself, as a counter attraction, and we are told that "there was a general roar from beginning to end." This was at "Goodman's Fields," and we may be certain that Dr. Johnson formed one of his audience, as at that time he loved the theatre, and was probably often to be seen at Drury Lane, then in the heyday of its youth and popularity.

Dr. Johnson could be austere and

grave, he could be melancholy, indeed, and his declining years he was often morose. But he could be gay and jovial. "To be able to furnish pleasure that is harmless," he once declared; "is a great power as man can possess."

There were certain days which the doctor observed with religious solemnity. New Year's Day, March 15, (the day of his wife's death), Good Friday, Easter Day and his own birthday—these he was wont to pass in prayer, meditation and devotional writings. Christmas, however, is a feast, and we may be sure that Johnson was not remiss in its celebration. If history throws little light upon the way in which he spent Christmas, we may be sure that it is because he laid aside the mantle of the scholar and day at Oxford, for no one thought of incurring the risks of travelling by night at that period. The London they entered was a much smaller city than now, for its suburbs were unknown, and its streets presented a very different appearance from those of today.

No article dealing with Dr. Johnson and his times would be complete without reference to his association with the famous old Cheshire Cheese tavern, off Fleet Street, to which he was a constant visitor for years, and where he was the nightly companion of Goldsmith and many other literary notabilities. On a Winter's night, when the red curtains were drawn across the windows, and the big fire was casting a ruddy glow over the aunted floor, the doctor loved to sit in his accustomed corner of the cosy oak wainscotted room, and converse with his fellow cronies, whose companionship he missed so acutely whenever he was away from the city. He loved London. "No, Sir," he told Boswell, "there is nothing which has yet been contrived by man by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn."

## BEAUTIFUL FLOOR COVERINGS APPEAR

WILTON, AXMINSTER, BRUSSELS, PRODUCTS OF BRITISH SKILL, PRESENT WIDE VARIETY

Plain Coverings Are Also Popular for Choice of Home-Makers

When the furnishing or refurbishing of a house is under consideration the first thing to be decided upon is the color, the quality and the kind of floor covering. The floor and its rug or carpet strike the keynote of a room: the eye naturally seeks the floor first, and gauges the taste of the owner according to its reaction to the prospect. Where the beauty of ornaments or the furniture is to be the feature of the room, the floor-covering must of necessity supply a rich, yet unobtrusive background; it must be startling, yet not startling, fine, yet not too lavish in design. On the other hand, the possession of a beautiful imported rug or carpet means that the rest of the room will have to be toned down in order that the exquisite pattern and colorings of the rug may be seen and appreciated to the fullest extent.

Rugs From Britain. Brussels, Wilton, Axminster and chenille, made in the finest carpet mills in the world, in Britain, offer wide choice to the person contemplating refurbishing a home. Brussels, a loop-pile fabric, consisting of a strong woven foundation, composed of linen, jute and cotton yarns, achieves its many charming patterns on the surface by means of differently colored looped threads of worsted yarns. The character of the fabric lends itself to patterns well defined in design and color. The smooth gently ribbed surface gives a clean and neat effect, and the carpet is generally more suitable for small and medium-sized rooms and simple furnishing schemes.

Soft, Rich Wiltons. The Wilton carpet is produced through a process somewhat similar to the Brussels, with the exception that a softer, richer surface effect, both in appearance and in feel, is attained. For more pretentious rooms, for formal drawing-rooms, for the large general living-room in the modern home, the Wilton carpet or Wilton rug, in its myriad choice of designs, is an excellent purchase.

It is the Axminster, however, that among machine-made carpets, most closely approaches the Oriental hand-made product. The similarity lies in the fact that they are tufted, and the tuft is admittedly reminiscent of the knotted tuft of the Oriental carpet. As a process the Axminster is comparatively new, but it has developed rapidly, and the new Chenille Axminster is now bidding for much of the approval and patronage formerly given to its ancestor. It combines economy with richness of texture and almost unlimited potentialities of design and color effect.

Vogue of Plain Carpets. Plain carpets, also a product of the genius and skill of British industries, are much in vogue in Canada just now owing to their very fine colors, the depth of their pile and their excellent wearing qualities. In a room where much color is used the plain velvety surface is infinitely desirable to a loud-patterned rug, which might result in a chaotic effect.

As the floor proper is the foundation of the room and occasionally the keynote of the entire decorative scheme it should be planned with much thought and care as is given the selection of the furniture, wall covering and upholstery fabrics. Thanks to an ever-increasing appreciation of design as well as a growing realization of the importance of pattern in this section of the room, the floor is now selected for its ornamental features quite as much as for its utilitarian qualities.

There are many kinds of floors to consider when building, among them being parquet, tiling, stone, composition, linoleum and the old-fashioned deck flooring.

Fun ran riot at the Christmas party and when the lights were lowered for an old-fashioned game. Hinkins thought he would edge closer to the girl who during the evening favored him with not a few glances of reasonable goodwill.

After the scramble the lights went up and there also rose a howl from one of the junior guests.

"What's the matter, Willie?" inquired the hostess. "Didn't you get any snapdragons?"

"None—oh," sobbed the little boy, "I didn't get a chance. As soon as the lights went out Mr. Hinkins got hold of my hands and kept on squeezing them and saying something about 'little peach.' Who wants peaches at



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Ask your friends where they have their garments cleaned and dyed—two out of every three will tell you Pantorium. Why?—because they have learned from experience of our better work and more dependable service.

Brighten up your garments and home furnishings for it will help you enjoy the Christmas cheer.

Phone 3302 on Monday morning. Send us one trial garment. You will find it returned to you promptly. Examine it carefully and you will find that it will be a better class of work than you have ever had before.

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One Emerald and Diamond Ring, regular \$300.00. Sale, \$225.00

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Special Reduction on All Nugget Jewelry—Real Bargains.

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A Splendid Opportunity for Getting Christmas Presents At

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Chums	Desk Sets	Card Sets
Scouts	Leather Frames	Chess
Girl Guides	Bridge Sets	Book Ends
Sunday at Home	Patience Sets	Wallets
Pip and Squeak	Boxed Stationery	Key Cases
Wilfred's	Leather Poets	Stud Boxes
Empire Boy	Gift Books	Collar Boxes
Mechanics	Fiction	Fountain Pens
Play Box	Appointment	Pencils
British Legends	Books	Books on
Brave Men	De Luxe	Travel
King Arthur	Editions	Biography
Robin Hood	Bridge Scores	Science
Henty Line	Art Books	Radio
Naval Tales	Snapshot	Essays
School Tales	Albums	New Thought
Nature Tales	Cook Books	Golf
Wonder Books	Prayer Books	Sport
Paint Books	Bibles	Chanteys
Paint Boxes	Candles	Gifts for
School Bags	Place Cards	Doctors
Compendiums	Baby Books	Dentists
Pocketknives	Wax Sets	Bankers
Games	Framed Mottos	Merchants
Pit	Calendars	Students
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75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and Up to \$10.00

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# Things the Youngsters can make for Gifts

By Marjorie Howe Dixon



A child doesn't have to be a budding artist to enjoy making things. And the training he gets, in working out his simple ideas in craft, will always be valuable to him. There is nothing so pitiful as a grown-up who doesn't know how to use his hands.

When Christmas comes, the youngster will want to try his hand at making gifts. In this he should be encouraged, and advice and materials given him. A good supply of patience and alertness will be needed by mother or auntie, she who is guiding the young fingers, but employing these qualities, she will find the labor worth it.

**Supervision by Grown-Ups**  
A youngster intent on his work, does not observe the paint can near the edge of the table, and the possibility of its being knocked off—nor yet does it occur to him that his water color brush must not be dipped in the glue. Many minor accidents can be headed off by alert supervision of the grown-up in charge of activities.

A little book containing a set of good transfer pictures suggested a number of ideas to one, interested in children's work. With a little practice even a quite small child can learn to dampen and print the transfer pictures neatly on paper or wood. An oblong of fairly stiff white board with a neat group of flowers and a butterfly, printed from the transfer pictures can have a small calendar added and it will make a pretty gift.

**Paint Unfinished Wood Boxes**  
Unfinished wood boxes offer a number of possibilities. The box could be painted with a bright dye and transfer pictures scattered about top and sides, and the whole shellacked. Painted with bright

enamel, such a box would be very attractive, with fruit in an interesting group, on its cover, or flowers prettily arranged.

A can or two of enamel paints, and a yard of black pebbled oil cloth will supply materials for several useful gifts. Box can make mother a table runner or a shelf covering, and other things besides.

A table runner with scalloped edges is not hard to make. A jelly glass can be used for the scallops. Trace a semi-circle with the glass, on the wrong side of the oil cloth, close to that edge and cut out the scallops with sharp scissors. Fold a delay or some simple flower in each scallop. This will make a very practical gift. A shelf runner should be made to fit the particular shelf and the scallops should run on the side instead of the ends.

**Oil Cloth for Cook Book**  
The black oil cloth will make a pretty cover for a cook book, with a floral decoration. A case for stationery can be constructed that will be durable and very desirable to one who is travelling. A box of stationery will be needed, preferably of standard size, so that once the case is emptied, it can be easily filled again.

It will be well for the child to make a paper pattern so he will know exactly what he is to do, when he cuts the oil cloth. Arrange stiff boards for the back, and bring flaps over the edges, so that the envelopes are held on one side and the paper on the other.

And be sure to allow enough space in the centre of the back for the thickness of the envelopes and stationery together. This is a point a child will easily overlook. The flaps holding either side do not need to be deep, because paper and envelopes must be easily slid out.

Patterned paper or wall paper can be used to line the case, giving it down neatly over the boards to hold them in place. The oil cloth flaps are glued together so that they held the envelopes on one side and the paper on the other. And, of course, the present must be planned for the cover, and be all painted with enamel.

**Boxes for Gifts**  
In a shop where foreign goods were received, many small boxes accumulated. These suggested several gifts. If a box with a lid was found it was sandpapered to take off all the rough edges and corners. When painted, and decorated, such a box could be used to hold packs of cards, cigarettes, or could be used on a dresser.

Several boxes were available that had no lids. These were sawed off, so that each made a small tray. When sandpapered, painted and decorated with a neat design, a tray of this kind would be an acceptable gift to anyone.

**Basket of Goodies**  
If a child is interested in one who is shut-in, a number of pleasant gifts can be contrived. A basket of homemade goodies would seem especially nice, with each article wrapped separately. The child could make candy and cookies, and tie up one of mother's small glasses of jelly in a bright colored paper. Nuts would go in a separate package and one or two small amusing toys.

A shut-in would appreciate a scrap book very much. If for a youngster make a picture scrap book. If a grown-up, have mother select magazine articles of special interest to that dear one and paste in neatly, with funny stories and cartoons, scattered through the book. Make sure you are selecting things that the invalid has not already seen.

## Sixth Century Convent Saw First Stocking Hung

Where Did Santa Get His Reindeer?—Mistletoe From Druids—Where Did Custom of Giving Originate and How?

Does the Christmas tree owe its existence to the Egyptians? Several authorities favor this view, and the fact remains that in Germany, where the Christmas tree, as it is known now, really originated, families which are too poor to buy a tree sometimes use a decorated pyramid as the centre of their gift-giving. In this connection, it is interesting to note that if Queen Victoria had married an Englishman the gaily decorated tree would still be more or less of an unknown quantity in England. Prince Albert, of Saxe-Coburg, being commonly credited with having introduced the tree in his adopted country, where it became very popular.

**Gift Giving**  
The gift giving habit is still more obscure in its origin. The giving of presents was one of the features of the Roman saturnalia, celebrated at the Winter solstice, but there are not a few authorities who ascribe the custom to a post-up a peacetime problem, to a patriarch of the Christian Church, St. Nicholas.

St. Nicholas was known to have been Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, but his authentic history does not run much further than that. It is claimed, however, that when a certain father of three daughters found himself in the predicament of not being able to supply suitable dowries for the three girls, and therefore not in a position to marry them, the venerable saint came to his aid with secret gifts. This is supposed to have originated the habit of secret gift-giving on the eve of St. Nicholas Day, December 6. In the course of time the custom came to be associated with Christmas Day.

**The First Stocking**  
In passing, it might be noted that in a sixth century convent it was customary for the young lady boarders to hang a stocking on the door of the apartment of the Abbess on Christmas Eve. The next morning they were summoned to witness the celebration of the saint, who, we are told, had bountifully filled the stockings with sweets.

Santa Claus appears to have come over to America with the Dutch colony in the seventeenth century. His name, derived from the Dutch San Nicholas, indicated his connection with the kindly bishop. Where he got his reindeer is a matter for conjecture, but he seems to have been a first cousin of Knecht-Ruppert, who brings good little German children presents on Christmas morning, and bad little German children a very

serviceable switch. Santa Claus' German relative was a real community Santa Claus, for, on Christmas Eve, he used to collect the presents of all the parents in a village, and next morning distribute them with the explanation that he had been sent by Jesus Christ, his Master.

Mince pie is peculiarly English in connection with Christmas. If this were for a story book: Once upon a time all the people got so fond of eating Christmas pie at Christmas that some of the people got mad and said, "It's a heathen pie, and not good to eat on Jesus' birthday."

Mince pie has long been sung in Christmas rhymes, but the aversion to its alleged sinful qualities were once so strong that for years it was considered advisable that a clergyman should not partake of its fragrant contents—not only at Christmas but all the year around.

It was very precious to its admirers of some centuries back, however, who surrounded its preparation with much ceremony, and set a guard over it on Christmas Eve, lest some wandering thief should decide not to play merry-man.

Come, guard this night the Christmas pie,  
That the thief, though ne'er so sly,  
From him who all alone sits there,  
To catch it,  
From his who all alone sits there,  
Having his eyes still in his care,  
And a deal of mighty fear.  
To watch it!

**Mistletoe From Druids**  
Use the mistletoe is one of the survival of the customs of the Druids, whose mystic religion held away over the early Britons before the conquest of Britain by Julius Caesar. It was held in veneration of the ancient faith because of its association with the oak, the favorite tree of Yule, the Druid sun-god. During the celebration of the Winter solstice the mystic plant parasite was gathered with much pomp and rejoicing. Following a sacrifice, the mistletoe was distributed among the people, who hung it over their doorways as a propitiation to the sylvan deities during the season of cold. Its association with kissing and giggling appears to have developed at a later date. Holly, ivy and evergreen, commonly used as decorations at times of joyous festivals by many of the ancient races, have all come to be associated with the mistletoe as decorations peculiarly in keeping with the spirit of Yuletide.

lowed perhaps by small models of a farmhouse where a particularly grisly murder was committed. Other models of farmhouses with picture windows, their roofs claim to fame were made, as were innumerable groups of cows and sheep, dogs and horses of the farm, modelled with a quality of crudity that has little to do with art. Yet, in spite of the bad craftsmanship and downright mementoes of the past allure many persons into paying a good price for an original one or seeking out a faithful reproduction.—From The New York Times Magazine.

## CHINA BIRDS ARE DECORATIVE NOTE

GLAZED ORNAMENTS CATCH NEW PHASE OF DECORATION FOR INTERIORS

Figures Indicate Great Taste of Designers, Offering Attractive Features

It would be difficult to find a more brilliant bit of furnishing than the glazed figures of English china, Italian majolica or Czechoslovak and American pottery which today are utilized by decorators in giving a new phase to room decoration. Among the many forms in vogue are the parrots, in their greens, reds and oranges—tiny ones to ornament a boudoir desk, and imposing examples for the top of the dining-room buffet. With these bits of glazed ware, which are, after all, only more colorful relations of the old English china figures, has come in a galaxy of new English figures inspired by art and literature. Lucy Lockitt, from "The Beggar's Opera," with the Beggar himself and Polly Peachum, may now be had. Lovers of Dickens may add to their lares and penates the bright china figures of Mr. Micawber or the Fat Boy, or even Mr. Pickwick in a blue coat and a most ingratiating smile.

**Excellent Reproductions**  
Of course, one who is partial to the old may now obtain excellent reproduction of the old Chelsea and Derby china, as well as old Staffordshire pottery figures. Collectors of antiques are rapidly cornering the output of the English potteries of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Just now birds as ornaments for rooms are in favor, and in addition to parrots and parakeets, peacocks and pheasants are being used. In a strictly modern interior they seem somewhat out of place, but in rooms with an air of early nineteenth century the Staffordshire figures—the product of a pottery craft that was distinctly English—give an old-fashioned touch, as well as an amusing note.

**Beautiful Workmanship**  
One marvels at the workmanship as well as the ornithological knowledge of the makers of these ornaments. The glaze of modern pottery over clear and brilliant color makes these bits of craftsmanship interesting to the connoisseur as well as to the decorator.

More delicate are the fragile Irish Belleek vessels and the reproductions of English Chelsea and Derby porcelain figures. Less sophisticated and more suggestive of the English countryside are the hosts of figures known as Staffordshire. This class of painted pottery runs the gamut from impossible pink dogs with snub noses and gold chains to some charming groups of rustic inspiration.

Many Staffordshire figures are interesting because of the quaintness which time and association have given them. In a strictly modern interior they seem somewhat out of place, but in rooms with an air of early nineteenth century the Staffordshire figures—the product of a pottery craft that was distinctly English—give an old-fashioned touch, as well as an amusing note.

**Classical and Popular**  
Much of the Staffordshire ware was produced for popular use. The subjects embrace some of the classic groups made famous perhaps in Chelsea porcelain, and original designs smacking of country and small-town gossip. Full-length portraits of statesmen, Generals and divine figures in the news of the day were fol-

## Dickens and Influence on Christmastide

Wise young cynics of the period of 1926 are wont to laugh at the old Christmas card idea, at peace and good-will, at the Christmas carol, the Battle of Life, the cricket on the hearth, the Christmas of Dickens! It is dubbed offhand as—just movie stuff.

The founding finds a home, the banished sun returns in the nick of time with the needful to pay off the mortgage which falls due on December 25. The wicked bully is humanized after being humiliated, the misunderstanding is cleared up after twenty sad unnecessary years; old square-eyed honesty is justified to the hilt and all ends in some and smiles and a country dancer, kept alive at the buffet with Norfolk biffins and a Christmas bowl of smoking bishop.

Tet Dickens is a giant bestriding our little world of mediocrities like a colossus. And Dickens saw in the good-will which the spirit of Christmas could once engender the means once yearly at least to right the wrongs, if only to a degree, the crying miseries of the underdogs, of the underprivileged, the broken-down, and he worked the opportunity for what it was worth to the best of his ability and gone so cynical suggests that he pushed his tongue into his cheek.

Only last month people everywhere were once again able to realize the power for good that lies in exploiting the seasonable good-will which our public ceremonies and observations engender for a day. It is thus that we seek to exploit Armistice Day, it is thus that Dickens sought to exploit Christmas Day, having in his eye the child slave at the factory and life in hovel and shack and cellar.

They are still with us these problems though many great improvements have come since Dickens died. And problems of which he never dreamed haunt the long dark night of our modern lives.

Full of high hope and brilliant promise, new governments came and go, but little headway is made against the bogies and the dark places are not sensibly lighter. Perhaps Dickens was not such an antiquated old Victorian after all.

It is true, that at one period of the history of Great Britain Christmas was declared illegal. Oliver Cromwell had a law passed to put down what was known as the "superstitious festival" and the holly and mistletoe were ordered to be destroyed root and branch as "plants of the Evil One."

In order to attain this end the Protector enacted that the markets were to be held on December 25. The command, however, was more honored in the breach than the observance.

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Tampio, by Joseph Hergesheimer.  
Young Anarchy, by Sir Philip Gibbs.  
Bellarion, by Rafael Sabatini.  
The Diary of a Young Lady of Fashion.  
The Dancing Floor, by John Buchan.  
The Other Door, by "A Gentleman With a Duster."  
The High Adventure, by Jeffrey Farnol.  
The Master of the Microbe, by Robert Service.  
Lord Rains, by Arnold Bennett.  
Beau Sabreur, by the Author of Beau Geste.  
Step-Sons of France, by the Author of Beau Geste.

The Dark Dawn, by the Author of Wild Geese.  
Her Son's Wife, by Dorothy Canfield.  
What Really Happened, by Mme. Lawdies.  
Saviours of Society, by Stephen McKenna.  
Grain, by Robert Sieck.  
The Black Hunter, by J. Oliver Curwood.  
Afternoon, by the Author of Madame Claire.  
Introduction to Sally, by Elizabeth.  
The Treasure of the Lake, by Rider Haggard.  
The Quiet Lady, by Agnes Murr Mackenzie.  
Winnie the Pooh, by the Author of When We Were Very Young.  
The Epic of Everest, by Sir Francis Young.  
husband.  
And Many, Many Others.

Much of the Staffordshire ware was produced for popular use. The subjects embrace some of the classic groups made famous perhaps in Chelsea porcelain, and original designs smacking of country and small-town gossip. Full-length portraits of statesmen, Generals and divine figures in the news of the day were fol-

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# Flowers—The Gift for Christmas

## Christmas Gifts

CHRISTMAS again draws near and, as usual, there will be a number of useless presents bought, which will be forgotten in a week or so. How much better to select an original gift that will improve with time, be a pleasure to the eye both Winter and Summer, and increase in size and beauty as time goes on.

What could be more welcome than a Rose Bush with its bloom and fragrance all Summer long, or the Holly with its seasonable berries and foliage ever green?

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Single Bushes, from	50c
To latest novelties at, each	\$3.00
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## Party Puzzles and Magic Will Fascinate Company

No member of a Christmas party is so welcome as the guest who has the ability to perform a little sleight-of-hand and there are a number of simple feats of conjuring well within the powers of the youngest amateur. The amateur conjurer should, however, bear in mind that it is not advisable to show the same trick twice to the same audience because there is a possibility that the secret may be discovered if it is shown a second time. The performer should try over his tricks in private before presenting them as a little practice will ensure a neat performance.

**Mysterious Dessert**  
The conjurer picks up an apple, places it on an inverted wineglass and covers it with a paper cone. When he lifts the cone the apple has disappeared. A reel of cotton and the paper is shown to be empty. This trick should be performed well seated at the table. The apple is prepared beforehand by cutting a piece out of the end opposite to the stalk; the cavity so formed should be large enough to conceal a reel of cotton. This prepared apple with the reel inside can be placed among other fruit on a dish. The conjurer picks up the apple taking care not to expose the hole and places upon an inverted glass so that it may be clearly seen and with the concealed reel uppermost. The cone is made from fairly stiff paper and placed over the apple. When the cone is lifted the sides are slightly pinched and the apple is brought away inside the cone leaving the reel of cotton in view. While attention is drawn to the reel the conjurer allows the apple to slide out of the paper into his lap, and immediately opens the cone to show that the apple has disappeared. A large walnut may be substituted for the reel of cotton if desired.

**Clever Thought Reading**  
This trick is certain to produce a great deal of amusement if well worked. Commence by offering to read the thoughts of any one present. Having decided on the victim, a lady for choice, take a sheet of paper and tear it into small pieces and hand one of the pieces to everyone in turn leaving the lady whose thoughts are to be read until the last. She naturally holds out her hand when you come to her. Offer her a piece of paper and then withdraw it saying, "You thought I was going to give you a piece but I wasn't." Thus will you have read her thoughts!

**Have Them on String**  
Announce that you can tie a man up with two pieces of string each only a foot long in such a way that he cannot get free even with the use of a knife or a pair of scissors. To prove your ability to do this you invite your victim to kneel down, and while he is in that position you tie his right wrist to his right foot and his left wrist to his left foot. You can then put a pair of scissors in front of him and ask him to cut himself free. He cannot move either hands or feet in

fact the only movement he can make is the one that he will make if he tries to get hold of the scissors—he will fall over and in that position be helpless.

No Christmas party is complete without a few puzzles and here are a few suggestions designed to keep the company amused for hours.

Can you make any sense out of these four lines?  
D I G S T H I S M I L D T W L G H T D M  
W H I S T L E D S N W L D S W P T T V G L C  
R I C H N I S K M  
L G H T W N D S S G H N G E N K L L R S  
N G B R I G H T

Only needs the addition of one vowel to make four lines of quite good poetry. The letter is "I". But it is the right places and the lines will read:  
Idling I sit in this mild twilight dim,  
While birds in wild swift vigil circling skim,  
Light winds in sighing sink, till rising bright,  
Night's virgin pilgrim swims in vivid light.

When you have done this try the mystery of the moving arm. Choose one of your party and make him or her stand about eighteen inches from the wall. Tell your victim to stiffen the arm nearest the wall and move it away from the body until the back of the hand touches the wall. He must stand firm and press the wall as hard as possible with the back of his hand for half a minute. Now tell him to step away and relax his arm. He will be astonished to find his arm gradually rising without any effort on his part as if some invisible person were lifting it. The arm will rise until it is level with the shoulder and then slowly sink back again.

An ordinary feather will provide any amount of fun and is the medium of a game especially popular with children. Select one that will float in the air, and throw it above the heads of the players, who sit in a circle. The object of the game is to keep the feather in the air by blowing. If the feather touches anyone that person must pay a forfeit.

Telling fortunes is another splendid way of keeping a party cheerful. This can be done in many ways, among them being the use of dominoes. Shuffle the pieces face downwards on the table and allow your friends to take up three pieces each. The dominoes can be interpreted as follows: One black means that the person drawing it will have to be more careful with his money; two blacks or he will experience difficulties. A double blank means bad luck in love and a double ace great good fortune. Two blacks signifies hard times ahead; a double two indicates a legacy and so on. You can attach a meaning to each piece and cause great fun with your answers.

**Directed Elsewhere**  
A bookseller telegraphed to Philadelphia for a copy of "Seekers After God," by W. W. Farrar, and received the following reply: "No seekers after God in Philadelphia or New York. Try Boston."

## The Esoteric Art of Flower Arrangement in Japan

Although no definite age can be ascribed as to the origin of flower-arrangement, the esoteric and esthetic art of Japan, it is recognized that the occupation has been indulged in as a pastime by the literate and the refined since a very old time. It was, however, during the Ashikaga period (1333-1597 A.D.) that the dexterity and taste developed began to be recognized, and flower-arrangement was admitted among the enlightened arts to be followed by the select circle. From the Keicho era, about three hundred years ago, the practice has been pursued with zeal and solemnity along with the ceremonial-tea; so that one that was versed in the latter was almost invariably an adept in the art of flower-arrangement. There had been various cults, or so called ryu or "schools" produced, each of which had its own peculiar style and method of procedure, just as in the art of ceremonial-tea. Of these cults at least three still survive and are popularly followed today. They are Ko-ryu, Ichi-ryu, and Myo-ryu.

There are differences in the method of treating and setting up "flowers" according to various "schools." In all, however, the fundamental principles or theories underlying first steps are the same. By these it is required that every bit of plant arranged must be made of three elements, symbolizing "heaven," "man," and "earth." If a single plant or branch of tree is to be used, the main part that shoots upward represents "heaven," a right twig bent sideways in the shape of inverted "A" denotes "man," and the left twig bent lower so as almost to touch the water in the vase signifies "earth." Several plants or branches may also be used, representing separately the three elements, but placed closely together. These plants or branches need not necessarily be of the same kind; for instance, the bamboo may be made to symbolize "heaven," with pine and plum-blossom, "man" and "earth" respectively. The main part, or "heaven," is to be bent in a bow-shape or curve with its concavity turned towards the right. It is evident from such an arrangement that the plant or flower set in it is to be placed on the dais or tokonoma, or in an apartment where it is seen only from one direction.

Proper proportion must be given to the arrangement. The length of the main part, or "heaven," should be from one and one-half to two and one-half times the height of the vase used, according to different "schools." If the vase is one of the wide-mouthed variety or plate, the diameter of the rim, instead of the height, is taken as the measure. The bending of the

## CANDLES BESTOW TRUE YULE CHEERFULNESS

Real Christmas Touch Can Be Introduced by Tasteful Arrangement of Candles

The custom of lighting candles at Christmas time is an ancient one. According to the old idea, these candles were to be lighter on Christmas Eve, placed on the window sill, and left burning there all night. Modern usage has found a place for them on the mantelpiece, as a part of the table decorations for the holiday feast, and on the Christmas tree, where they are very effective among the holly wreaths and other scenery.

Candles were originally made in colonial homes of beeswax or of suet or "tallow." These materials still enter into the composition of many candles, but with the increasing use of kerosene for industrial and decorative purposes, it proved necessary to find some cheap and plentiful substance to supplement them, and that substance happened to be a pure white wax called paraffine. Christmas tree candles are made of paraffine which has been colored red, pink, yellow, green, or left white, and turned through twisted molds which give them that twisted-ropes effect. There are more candles of every kind bought and used today than were used in olden times when they were the chief source of evening light.

**Self-Consuming**  
Thinking of the subject of candle-light, aside from its romance, which is difficult to must be admitted that their moulding and hand-dipping was but one more added task to the already burdened colonial household.

However artistic they were in appearance, home-made candles were often ill-smelling and dripped and smoked badly. Modern candles do not smoke, they are "self-consuming," and burn down in a "cup" form leaving neither unsightly streams of melted wax nor objectionable smoke and odor.

As for the candles themselves, the market is full of them—colored, scented, twisted ones, decorated ones, antique ones, and candles of every size and description. It is just as well to use some discretion in selecting them, as the colors in some are crude, the shapes are apt to be freaky, and the cheap, poorly-made candles have a habit of becoming carefully made of the best materials, their colors true and deep-set.

**Beautiful Home**  
There is not a room in the house that is not beautified by a judicious use of fine tapering candles. They can be selected to accord with the hues of rugs and draperies; or they can repeat the dominant note of well-chosen colors brighten the gloom of cheerless corners. In the living-room, for instance, they may be used in sticks or sconces upon the mantel, on top of a bookcase, on the sides of a quaint desk, or in standards on either side of a massive chest or table. Console candles, as the name tells, are appropriate on console, side or refectory table. In the boudoir or sleeping-room, in the music room, in the dining-room on the sideboard or serving table, or shedding their soft radiance over the white cloth and glistening silverware to make the dinner more delightful.

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## Electric Appliances in the Basement Workroom

When it comes to the very newest arrangements, the very latest in efficiency for laundry done at home, well fitted up kitchen with all the necessary equipment, is advised, because it saves running up and down steps.

In most homes, however, the kitchen does not lend itself easily to this latest improvement, for various reasons. It is too small, or it has to be sacrificed to the breakfast nook, or it is an old kitchen and all the plumbing would have to be rearranged.

Thus in many homes the basement workroom will continue to be the centre of activities for the Monday washing. A light, high-ceilinged, well ventilated cellar can be made as cheerful and fine a workroom as any room upstairs.

**Cemented Linoleum Floor**  
A linoleum floor cemented into place is recommended because of its many fine qualities, its easiness to clean, and its comfort for standing, not to mention its durability.

A double or single laundry tub is usually built in. Since rinsing and bluing may be done in the washing machine, a double tub is not really needed. The washing machine often is on casters so that it may be rolled over to the tub, when in use, and out of the way when its period of service is over.

Speaking of casters, one of the new labor-saving devices is a low bench on

casters to hold the wash basket. This is to save stooping—an idea that will commend itself to any housewife.

The water supply is to be considered for wash day. A water softener and a water heater are two very necessary mechanical helps, that is, if one lives in a hard water district.

Another device that lends itself to making wash day easier is an electric dryer. Sunshine, alas, cannot be turned on like water when a clothes dryer is a blessing indeed.

**Built-in Ironing Board**  
Then when the wash is already for ironing, the matter of equipment for ironing must be considered. Where space is restricted, a built-in ironing board is a great help, with a shelf at the top of its cupboard on which to place the electric iron. Special plugs and switches are now available so that one may tell at a glance whether the electricity is on or off.

Besides the iron and a good board, another helper is an ironing machine. Of these there are many makes to choose from. One has a swinging table top. This is swung out to one side when the machine is in use, giving a space on which to place freshly ironed clothes, or sprinkled rolls of washing.

There is no question about the tremendous saving of time and energy that these machines offer.

Two small rooms seem necessary in almost every basement. One is the coal room, and the other is the preserve closet. A cool dark preserve

closet is a joy to any housewife. But the coal room—the time to arrange for that is when the house is being built. And if you come into an old house, in which the location of the coal room is badly planned, how very irritating it is to be let.

**Accessible to Furnace**  
Some of these are planned so that a long journey to the furnace is necessary every time it needs fuel. Others seem to be especially designed to make it difficult to fill with coal. That is—the outside window opens on the lawn, or the side furthest from the drive, or in some place entirely inaccessible. And then, of course, everyone knows what it means to have the coal room open at the top so that the dust can fly all over the cellar. In the newest of houses, they are sometimes found that way.

Another workroom in the basement, besides the laundry, is the corner fitted up for the good man's work bench, with shelves and racks for his tools. The cartoonists are unmerciful to the "man-about-the-house," perhaps because a man has to stop and laugh at himself when in his efforts to help he does more damage than good.

The cartoonist finds it funny to see a man pound a nail and hit his thumb by mistake, and the man can laugh, too—afterward. If efficiency helps be graded, as report cards are marked at school, dad's work room would appear with merits at the top of the list.

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## Electricity Has Become Ally of All Mankind

Long before man became civilized he knew there was power in the forked lightning of the summer electrical storm and he feared and often worshipped it accordingly.

But it remained for the twentieth century to welcome this power into our homes, offices and factories as a willing, docile servant, thereby making our lives more comfortable, more profitable and more enjoyable.

We are today dependent upon electricity to such an extent that it is no exaggeration to say we are living in an electrical age.

Yet in spite of our familiarity with the uses of electricity, no one can say

positively what electricity really is. But we do know something that is, in a way, even more important; and that is why electricity will do and how it can be controlled.

We are, perhaps, most familiar with it as the agency by which we illuminate our homes, streets and public buildings, chase away the gloom and darkness by merely pressing a button.

In our homes, too, electricity is taken quite as a matter of course for cooking, water-heating as an auxiliary for house-heating and, just lately, for producing cold-electric refrigeration.

**In Domestic Service**  
This same power that the savage so little understood and so greatly feared is now used to operate the electric toaster and coffee percolator right on the breakfast table. It also performs tasks such as sweeping, cleaning and the washing of clothes with a thoroughness and absence of attention and worry on the part of the housewife that would have been unbelievable a few years ago.

In our factories electricity may be found at work driving the most ponderous machinery or aiding in the most delicate mechanical processes with an equal facility.

Electricity is of the greatest possible service in our hospitals and laboratories. The X-ray, the beneficial results of the violet ray as well as many other wonderful treatments would never have been possible had not a power been discovered to tame the power in the lightning and to put it to work for the benefit and service of mankind.

Smiles and grins have been largely banished in many of our big cities through the use of white fuel—electric power. This, of course, all makes for better living conditions and a general raising of the standard of health.

**Modern Inventions**  
And the telephone, the telegraph, the radio: we cannot imagine the time when they did not exist. Such inventions and accomplishments have practically annihilated distance. They could never have been but for electricity.

Even the farmer is reaping the benefits of electricity. Not only does he use it for lighting his home and farm buildings, but it is lending him invaluable aid in doing many of his chores, pumping water, milking, milk separating, chaff cutting, that formerly were done by laborious and much slower methods. The use of electricity for stimulating plant growth, increased egg production in poultry pens and in other similar lines of usefulness is in this direction.

This is also an electric age in the investment field. It is not only popular but sound common sense to own a number of shares of stock in the company furnishing your community with electric light and power.

So, whichever way we turn, whatever our occupation, we find electricity at our elbow, so to speak, ready to aid and assist.

The service of electricity has thus become a public service. It is in the list of what are known as public utilities, which means that the responsibility towards the public is so great that the public must be considered first in its development and operation.

In its final analysis, electricity is the most wonderful friend and servant civilization has ever known, and our future development and progress is inseparably bound up with the future and complexity of the electrical industry.

**A Printer's Error**  
"The collection this morning," observed the vicar, "will be taken on behalf of the arch fiend and not, as erroneously printed in the service papers, on behalf of the arch fiend."

## Window Displays of Electrical Dealers Aid Gift Selection

AFTER all, what's the good of Christmas if it brings nothing to the home? Just as we must add a spoonful "for the pot" to make a good cup of tea, so we must keep adding to its comforts and joy if we want a successful home. There is all sorts of family joy stored up in electricity.

This year the Victoria electrical dealers are co-operating with a view of helping to make the selection of Christmas gifts one of ease and one which will give joy all the year round. On view in the various electrical stores are many appliances which help to save many weary hours of labor, and their slogan of give "something electrical" contains many useful Christmas suggestions.

There is always something the family needs which could be given at Christmas. Persons in doubt on the "What to Give" problem will find many useful and helpful suggestions by looking over the displays of electrical devices for the home that are now being shown in the various electrical stores in the city.

**Casts Shadow Before**  
TIE HAGUE.—The International Radio Conference to be held in Washington next year has cast its shadow before it. The former minister of the Dutch waterways, in whose department are included posts and telegraphs, etc., recently nominated a royal commission for preparing regulations for radioacting in Holland and its report has recently been published.

A very important question which the commission had to decide was whether anything should be radio-cast which might hurt religious or political susceptibilities. The conclusion reached was that every view of life is so far as it did not conflict with the law should be allowed free expression.

But in cases where it was considered that anyone's feelings might be hurt, it was decided that a certain amount of control might be exercised over the matter to be radio-cast.

This decision, which it is felt is in the form of a compromise between the different religious and political tendencies represented on the commission, is generally regarded as rather an unfortunate one. There is rather an unfortunate one. There is rather an unfortunate one.

**Radio Sole Communication**  
Maximum results cannot be obtained from any radio receiving set unless the aerial system is designed to minimize all electrical losses.

The aerial system properly speaking consists of one or more vertically or horizontally insulated wires, electrically joined to an earth connection, which is usually in the form of water-pipes. Most radio manufacturers specify a length and height of aerial adapted to their particular type of set used for broadcast reception.

Such aerials are usually from fifty to a foot long and thirty or more feet high.

It is very important that the aerial system should possess a minimum resistance to the passage of high frequency current induced therein by passing radio waves; therefore the wire should be hung free of surrounding objects, well insulated at each end and where the lead-in wire passes through the building. All joints should be carefully soldered and the earth



## Give Electrical Gifts This Xmas

We have a varied stock to choose from—Toasters, Grills, Waffle Irons, Griddles, Percolators, etc., for table cooking.

The very latest in design and most artistic of FIXTURES for the home.

Piano, Bridge, Table and Boudoir Lamps of every description.

Strings of Christmas Tree Lights, Plain and Fancy Lamps, Toy Transformers, etc.

"Kelvinator" for home refrigeration; Hotpoint Ranges, Sunnysuds Washers and the Eureka Vacuum Cleaner, which has just been awarded its Seventh-Gold Medal for being the most effective cleaner manufactured.

We welcome your inspection and are pleased to demonstrate.

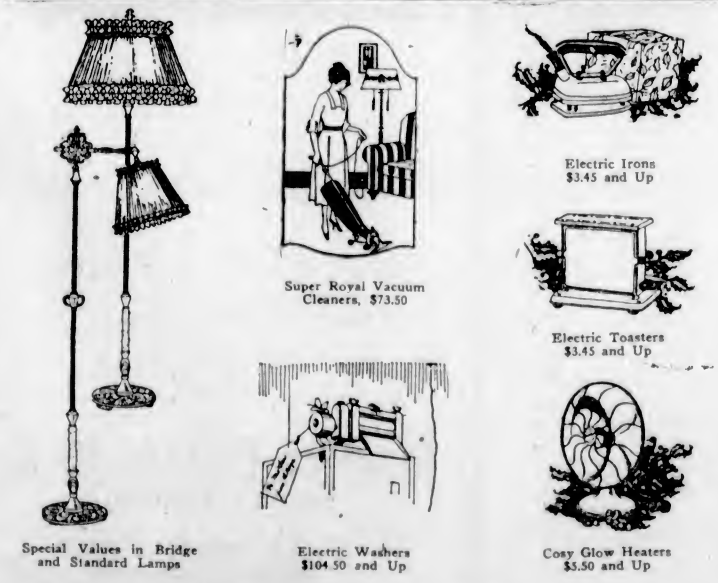
## Hawkins & Hayward

Electrical Quality and Service Store

Salesrooms: 1121 Douglas Street Cor. View  
Phones 643-2627

## "Give Something Electrical"

ELECTRICAL GIFTS  
Serve and Please  
The Year 'Round and  
for Many Years  
to Come



Special Values in Bridge and Standard Lamps

Super Royal Vacuum Cleaners, \$73.50

Electric Washers \$104.50 and Up

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You Will Find Our Two Stores Replete With a Wonderful Assortment of Useful and Beautiful Christmas Gifts

Douglas Street **BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.** Langley Street



## Special for This Week Christmas Tree Lighting Sets

We specialize in repairing Christmas Tree Sets and supplying spare colored globes.

Electrical appliances, all types and voltages, including irons, toasters, percolators, curling irons, vacuum cleaners, etc.

**SUN ELECTRIC CO.**  
NEW LOCATION  
1303 Douglas St. (Bank of Nova Scotia Bldg.) Phone 1833

connection should be of insulated wire as short as possible. The amount of electro magnetic energy picked up by an average aerial is so small that none of it can afford to be lost. The principal causes of aerial losses are, corroded wire or joints, leaky or dirty insulators, insufficient insulation of aerial, lead-in, or ground connection, too long a ground lead, had earth connection, or aerial too close to trees, roofs, or other objects. Careful construction of the aerial system will often obviate fading of signals, broadness of tuning and impaired reception.

**The New Scarves**  
Hand-embroidered scarves of finest radium silk are being introduced for the decoration of the well-dressed man for Fall and Winter wear. The silk is extra heavy and the pattern is neat, not gaudy, being mostly in inconspicuous geometrical designs.

The type of antenna or "aerial" commonly used, is known technically as a "capacitance antenna" because the "flat-top" acts as one plate of a condenser and the earth as the other, the air between being the "dielectric" or insulating material separating these "plates."

**Poet's Hymn to Christmastide**  
(From Milton's Hymn, "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity")  
Ring out, ye crystal spheres!  
Once bless our human ears,  
And if ye have power to touch our senses so:  
And let your silver chime  
Move in melodious time,  
And let the bass of Heaven's deep organ howl;  
And with your ninefold harmony  
Make up full consort to the angelic symphony.

This is the month and this is the happy morn,  
Wherein the Son of Heaven's eternal King,  
Of wedded maid and virgin mother born,  
Our great redemption from above did bring:  
For so the holy sages once did sing,  
That He our deadly forfeit should release,  
And with His Father work us a perpetual peace.



# Music and Radio in the Home

## For Added Power

Equip Your  
CAR or RADIO  
With a  
**Coyle Battery**

In a Sturdy Rubber Case  
11-Plate .....\$18.50  
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## CHELSEA



Chelsea 5-Tube, complete #125  
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Why we sell sets so cheap—we deal direct from factory. Large stock of parts at lowest prices. Sets sold on easy terms.  
552-54 Yates Street CROWTHER BROS. Phone 3786

## Spectres of Feast Recall Memories of Long Ago

Many old beliefs, customs and superstitions have been handed down through the centuries to the present day. No other holiday has such an abundance of old customs and observances as Christmas.

The Christmas tree, the mistletoe, the holly and the evergreen all have a halo of superstition about them. The Christmas tree with its emerald boughs and illuminated with dazzling lights is of Teutonic origin. In olden times the Teutons believed the sun ascending higher and higher in the heavens was the spreading and blossoming of an enormous tree. Thus today the Christmas tree is trimmed with lights to represent a heavenly sun tree, the lights signify the lighting, the golden apples, nuts, and other decorations of gold and silver the sun and the star at the top is supposed to be typical of the one that guided the three wise men of the East.

There is a tale that the first tree is the tree of life and that when Eve picked the fruit from the tree it was shivered and withered and that we may know of the tree of life by its evergreen leaves. The Yule-log which glows on the open hearth at Christmas is a tradition handed down by the Scandinavians from the period when they kindled great fires in honor of the god Thor. The yule-log played a very important part in the Christmas celebration in some parts of Europe. It is believed if a part of the log was carefully preserved to light the fire the following year the house would be secure against fire, or if a squinting person entered the house when it was burning, all kinds of misfortune would occur to the household. It was also considered an ill-omen if a barefooted person entered the room while the log was in blaze.

**Protection Against Witches**  
The mistletoe, under which a man may kiss a maiden unproved as long as there are berries on its branches, is the same plant which the Druids of ancient times used in their worship. The officiating priest, all in white robes and holding a golden sickle, cut the plant, which was received on a cloth of spotless white. The mistletoe was supposed to be a protection against witches and evil-minded persons.

Large sums were given the Druids for a piece to hang round the neck as a charm. An old superstition was that one could see ghosts and talk to them if a sprig was held in the hand. We believe the maiden who was not kissed under the mistletoe, for she would have no chance to marry until the next year. In fact, a branch of mistletoe in the house meant a prosperous year, good health and good fortune.

The holly is held in the same high regard, according to tradition. The holly as a special potency when worn in the shape of a wreath. If it was worn on Christmas Eve the wearer could see visions of spirit forms along

ing Christmas songs. An English belief is that not a bit of holly shall remain in the house by the twelfth night, or misfortune in some manner will occur.

**Origin of Mince Pie**  
The mince pie is supposed to commemorate, in its ingredients of oriental mixture, the offerings made by the wise men of the East. Three pies must not be consumed in one house or there will be trouble of some kind, is an old superstition of the English people.

The favorite Christmas dish, the plum pudding, must not all be eaten, but a portion kept for the new year if one wishes success in his or her future undertakings. The custom of giving Christmas gifts is of ancient origin. The old Romans made use of earthen boxes at their festive dinners. These boxes were hung up to receive contributions. The money was slipped in through a hole. In later years the priests used to place aboard alms boxes for aims to be opened at Christmas. A mass was said for the contributors and so the box came to be called a Christmas box. Our present custom of distributing boxes and presents at Christmas time is derived from this.

St. Nicholas is the children's patron saint.

## Mystic Spell of Radio Felt by Dwellers in North

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 11.—To dwellers within the Arctic Circle, on Hudson Bay and the far north islands, where the sun is hidden for six months of the year, the radio still holds a mystic spell—the expectancy of the miraculous.

Even three years of special far north programme broadcasting from the four stations of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company—KDKA, Pittsburgh; KYW, Chicago; WBBZ, Springfield, Mass., and KFKZ, Hastings, Neb.—has not robbed radio-receiving of its zest to the inhabitants of the north country.

With the broadcasting on Saturday, November 27, from WBBZ, of its first northern programme of the Winter, the Westinghouse chain completed its cycle of the first month's broadcasts. These programmes, which were begun in 1923 by KDKA, have become a part of each station's schedule. Copies of the schedules are mailed each Summer to the thousands of listeners in the north—stretching a line from the tip of Alaska to Greenland—so that the little bands of hardy men and women who live for the most part in the personal messages and official communications transmitted along with the regular programme.

Long years spent alone in the north country do not inevitably fortify men to the Winter-long siege of blackness and loneliness. Even the most self-contained trapper, after lonely weeks on his lines, craves the sound of a human voice, yearns for the sight of man. Though the clear, hard cold may twine its sheer beauty, a time comes when the eerie brilliance of the Aurora Borealis may enchant him with its sheer beauty, a time comes when nothing will quite still his gregarious urge.

Radio telegraph had been used after a manner in the far north before the advent of the broadcast; but it was not until the Winter of 1923 that consecutive broadcasts were begun. Stations of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Company and Revillon Freres, and isolated habitations were equipped with radio receivers and an attempt was made to penetrate the electric veil overhanging the north country with radio waves from the centres of civilization.

KDKA, the world's pioneer broadcast station, inaugurated these programmes on its regular wavelength of 39 metres. Special messages of a personal or official nature were repeated on 63-metre telegraph. With the improvement of short-wave transmission, KDKA transmitted the same programmes simultaneously on a 43-metre wave, for the benefit of a very few posts equipped with short-wave receivers, and to experiment further with shorter waves for broadcast.

The reception last year was brilliant and exceptional. It was not, however, until last Summer—with the arrival of the yearly mailbuds from the far-away communities—that the success of the preceding Winter's transmissions was learned.

The Westinghouse broadcasts to these far north points have already produced many thrilling episodes, and more than one time have made possible the sustaining of life at remote points through the dissemination of emergency news. When, in 1923, a supply boat was lost in the ice of Hudson's Bay, and it seemed impossible to reach a remote detached habitation with supplies from a neighboring post, the community was told by KDKA's broadcast of the obstacles confronting the rescue party. Inhabitants of the cut-off post hooked up their own sets and sketched the thin line, themselves fetching back the Winter's store of provisions.

Two young Danish scientists, A. E. and R. T. Porallid, got word from Alaska to their parents in Godhavn, Greenland, in Winter, of a change in their plans which would keep them away from home for another year. They accepted a commission from the Canadian Government to explore the delta of the Mackenzie River to determine the practicability of feeding caribou herds in that region. The word was relayed to KDKA, and the broadcast, Mr. Morten Porallid, Danish Government scientist at Godhavn, received the message. The sons were to spend this Autumn in Alaska, near Nome. They expected to start eastward over the barren lands as soon as snow falls. In the first Arctic programme of this season, KDKA broadcast this information to the father, informing him his sons

ron saint. There is a story of the good old Bishop Nicholas, who lived in Asia Minor, that he wished to assist a poor old nobleman who was too proud to ask for help. When the old nobleman could be seen fast asleep through the windows the good St. Nicholas climbed to the top of the chimney and dropped a purse filled with money down the chimney, thinking it would fall on the hearth, but the purse fell into the nobleman's stocking which was hanging to dry by the fire. The gift was discovered the next day and used for a marriage portion for his daughter. After that whenever the nobleman's daughters were of marriageable age he hung up a stocking and the girl was sure to be provided for.

**The Man in the Moon**  
A legend told which helps toward explaining the idea of the "Man in the Moon" is that a peasant desiring to eat some cabbage went to a neighboring garden to pick some. As soon as his basket was heaped with cabbage, he was walled to the moon and condemned to sit there for ever as a punishment for having stolen on Christmas Eve, and he can still be seen there on Christmas Eve.

There are numerous quaint beliefs how the cattle act at Christmastime. In the German Alps it is believed they are fitted with speech on Christmas Eve, but if one played eavesdropper he would hear some forthcoming misfortune. In some places the bees are thought to sing in their hives on the eve before Christmas. In England the robin is looked upon as the Christmas bird.

expected to reach Aklavik about March 1. The delta of the Mackenzie River is within a few miles of the Arctic Ocean.

Hundreds of letters come to the Westinghouse stations every Summer from the listeners in the far north, bearing grateful thanks for the delightful inclusions when worldly contact is established to them. Only once a year do these letters come, when the supply ship penetrates after the Spring thaw, and brings back its cargo of mail from the heart of the north.

## Yuletide Legends of Past

More than a century has passed since Dr. Clement C. Moore wrote those now famous lines beginning "Twas the night before Christmas." Never once dreamed that the poem would some day be cherished wherever Santa Claus was loved, and probably not even considering the possibility of its being given to the world outside of his own walls. Dr. Moore wrote the verses in December, 1822, and read them on Christmas Eve for the amusement of his own daughters as they gathered round his knee before the glowing Yule log.

It is said that this legend of Santa Claus was told to Dr. Moore in his boyhood days by a jolly, fat old Dutchman (who himself resembled Santa Claus). This story told by the quaint person remained with him, and he expressed his happy memories in the poem, which became popular from the moment it appeared in print. And it is interesting to learn how it came to the press, all unknown to the good doctor. A young woman friend of the family was visiting at the Moore home, read the poem in an album, copied it and sent it to a certain paper. So the following Christmas—only a year after it was written—it was given to the world, and proved to be a rare Christmas gift.

Needless to say, Dr. Moore was somewhat surprised to see it in print, but nevertheless delighted to know that it gave such pleasure to old and young alike. One of the little girls to whom he read the poem on that memorable Christmas Eve so long ago, died not many years ago at a jolly old age. To her was given the pleasure of seeing how her father's Christmas poem was appreciated and loved.

That this poem is truly a Christmas gift in every sense of the word is recognized by the fact that not a cent of royalties would Dr. Moore ever accept from any publisher who chose to print it.

It has spread gladness in foreign countries, as well as in our own, for it has been translated into many languages, to the delight of those little ones in faraway lands. A word or two about Dr. Moore's life may not be amiss. Clement C. Moore, son of the famed Bishop of New York, was born in 1779, and educated in New York City. In early life he was a large piece of property known as the Chelsea district, in the heart of New York—then, a vast estate with beautiful lawns and groves surrounding a stately mansion which was the late poet's home until a short time before his death.

Dr. Moore was a profound scholar and the founder of the present theological seminary in Chelsea District. Besides giving the city block for this college, he gave his services free for thirty years as professor. He compiled a ponderous dictionary, wrote a volume of poems, and several learned books. He lived to the age of eighty-four—a long life full of good deeds—a life of usefulness marked by a disregard for all material things. "All the year round his life seems to have kept Christmas, for his was a spirit that loved to give."

**He Knew**  
Little Johnny had accompanied his mother to a dinner at Mrs. Smith's. During the course of the meal Mrs. Smith remarked, "This plate is hand-painted, Johnny."

"That's nothing," spoke up the boy. "Our whole fence is hand-painted."

**A Good Job**  
"I can remember him when he didn't have car fare," "How did he make it?" "He got the State contract for painting detour signs." —Life.

Silk is now being manufactured from wood at the rate of 150,000,000 pounds a year, a greater volume than the silkworm produces.

## C. W. Radio Service Co., Ltd.

ANNOUNCE

## A Special Xmas Offer

LET radio make this an unforgettable Christmas. Think of enjoying wonderful music in your home; lively dances, old-time carols—cheer and gladness for young and old alike.

Our Christmas offer, with nine special privileges, gives you an opportunity that may not come again for months and months.

## Small Down Payment

Special Extended Terms

Read the nine advantages we offer you. Then consider that you can have all the joys of radio for a small payment down, and a convenient time to take care of the balance. Don't deny yourself the pleasure, entertainment and education that radio brings when you can buy on these terms and conditions. Our offer is for a limited time, so come in now for a demonstration of any model.

For a Limited Time Only—ACT NOW

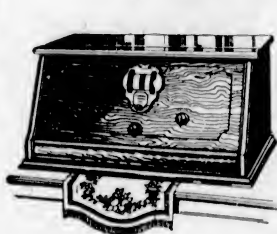
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- (1) FREE TRIAL in your own home.
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- (8) RELIEF INSURANCE. Half payments arranged for reasonable period in case of sickness or unemployment.
- (9) Complete Satisfaction Guaranteed.

## C. W. Radio Service Co., Ltd.

707 Fort Street Phone 3304

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On all orders placed for DeForest-Crosley Radio before Christmas we offer the unusual concession of

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See us immediately to insure delivery by December 24.

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Absolutely Improves Any Radio Set

PHILCO A and B Socket Powers will supply perfect radio power for any make or any kind of radio set, regardless of hook-up, circuit or whether your set is home-built or manufactured.

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RUNS ANY RADIO FROM YOUR ELECTRIC CURRENT

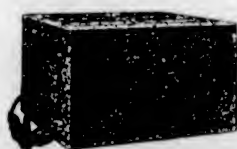
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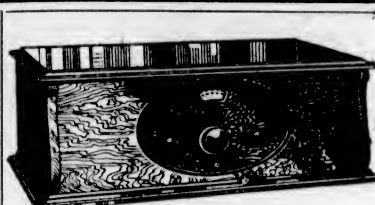
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The Famous A and B "Philco" Socket Power



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Every Evening of the Year

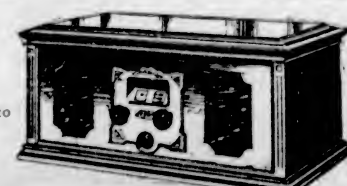
You naturally want your Christmas giving to mean something—to bring happiness to those you wish to remember. A Rogers Batteryless or Fada Radio set would bring untold joy—joy for many days to come.

Whether you select a Rogers or a Fada you will have the utmost in Radio. Any good set will bring in distance under average conditions. But today's demand is for distance PLUS perfect reproduction—for exact radio realism. Rogers and Fada will give you both.

Deferred Payments If Desired

## Western Canada Radio SUPPLY, LIMITED

642 Fort Street Phone 1949



FADA From \$60 to \$485



R-50  
5-TUBE SET

## A Victor-Northern Radio for Christmas

A radio receiver designed to meet broadcasting conditions as they exist in Canada today. The exclusive Victor-Northern "hook-up" provides the utmost selectivity and reproduces with a fidelity and faithfulness of tone that is unequalled.

Volume is there in full measure and distance is easily obtained.

Osaka, Japan, Brisbane and Sydney, Australia, have been heard on Victor-Northern sets. One enthusiastic owner reports tuning-in 220 different stations.

### R-24—3. TUBES

An exclusive and improved regenerative circuit—the best known for volume and distance. Operates on dry "A" and "B" batteries. This set is very easy to operate.

### R-50—5 TUBES

Never before has anyone heard radio reception from a five-tube set to equal this. Made purposely to bring in music with quality. Dx-221, and Peanut tubes.

Also R-40L and R-41L, 8 and 9 Tubes—the Leaders of the Victor-Northern Line.

### EASY TERMS ARRANGED

Free Demonstration on Application.

## E. G. Prior & Co., Ltd. Lbty.

1401 Government Street

Phone 5310

Victor-Northern Distributors for British Columbia.



## RADIO

The Heart of the Home

### ROGERS-Batteryless

O.K'd by Thousands of Owners

### Eliminates Batteries

Any wall plug or lamp socket in your home will operate

"ROGERS-BATTERYLESS"

Works on either 25 or 60-cycles current at a cost of less than 4c a week.

### Bremer-Tully

The Peer of Five-Tube Sets

Standard in Quality  
Standard in Price

From \$35.00 Up

Small deposit  
down, balance in  
monthly payments,  
will secure one of these.

## Jim Bryant

1417 Douglas Street

Phone 7781

### Uninterrupted Service

Why not save money and trouble by using Willard Radio "A" and "B" Batteries?

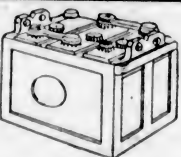
## Willard Radio Batteries

Are easy to keep charged and they last for years, give steady current needed for best results. SALES AND SERVICE THROUGH

1000 Douglas  
Street

## WEILLER

### THE WILLARD BATTERY MEN



Gives Better Results and  
Saves You Money

Phone  
669

## Jones Bros.

## Storage "A" Batteries

For Sale by All Dealers or at Our Service Station, 866 Yates Street

### Famous Inventor of Wireless Transmission



SIGNOR GUGLIELMO MARCONI

## Some British Opinions of American Broadcasting

Just before sailing for Europe, Captain A. G. D. West, chief assistant engineer of the British Broadcasting Company, declared the three things which impressed him about the radio situation in America during his stay were:

The great amount of dance music broadcast nightly.

The large percentage of advertising on the air.

The facility with which a large number of stations can be tuned in without interference.

Captain West, who discussed these things while visiting the development plants of the General Electric Company at Schenectady and the high-power station of the Radio Corporation of America at Bound Brook, N.J., is assistant to Captain P. P. Eckersley, chief engineer of the B. B. C. and is in technical charge of the twenty-one stations which make up the B. B. C. System in the British Isles.

### Crystal Reception

Discussing the situation in England, he said:

"Eleven of the twenty-one stations are relay stations, which broadcast on low power, programmes fed to them direct from London. The other ten stations have their own programmes, supplemented at times during the day by special features from London. News items, for example, are fed to all sections from London."

"From the first the B. B. C. System has been built with the idea of encouraging the owner of crystal sets and an effort has been made to place every Englishman in the British Isles within crystal-set distance of at least one station."

"Two years ago" about seventy-five of 100 listeners operated crystal sets. Today the percentage is fifty-fifty, with a steady increase in numbers of tube-set owners."

Interference Problem

"Interest in listening to continental stations, as well as the thrill of hearing American stations, has caused growing dissatisfaction with the limitations of the simpler sets. Sets are made to tune from 2,600 metres, while the wave length of the Eiffel Tower in France is 210 metres."

"Radio listeners in the United States are not the only ones to suffer interference and programme interruption. English and German stations may both be depended upon to hold close to their wave lengths."

In both these countries measurements are taken frequently and master oscillators are used to keep stations on their assigned waves. However, stations in other continental countries act up pretty badly at times."

### Broadcasting come to stay

"In addition, there is a great deal of interference from spark sets aboard ships and while an international official commission is endeavoring to obtain co-operative suppression of this nuisance, there has been little success thus far."

"Radio broadcasting is in England to stay. With the suspension of newspapers during the general strike this Spring, radio was depended upon by the people throughout the British Isles for news."

"Receiver owners pay a licence of ten shillings a year, and there are today 2,600,000 licences, and probably thousands who have neglected to take out licences."

## MONOPOLY GIVEN TO VENEZUELAN STATION

Station AYRE, of the Impresa Venezolana de Radiotelefonos, Has Exclusive Rights

Since May 23 station AYRE, of the Impresa Venezolana de Radiotelefonos, which owns and operates the only radio station in Venezuela, has been heard in many countries both in North and South America, according to Luis R. Scholtz, one of the executives of the company, who has just arrived in New York. This station has been heard regularly in San Francisco, Texas, Porto Rico and as far south as Buenos Aires.

Station AYRE is an American one-kilowatt plant, and transmits on 375 metres. Broadcasts are scheduled three days a week, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The programmes run somewhat as follows:

At 7 o'clock in the morning a news account and the money exchange reports are given. From 7:30 to 8 o'clock English lessons: from 8 to 10 and from 10 to 11, special broadcasts for radio set demonstrations to dealers are arranged.

In the evening from 7:30 to 8 there is the bedtime story for children. Then from 8 to 11 a regular concert programme with material drawn from the various theatres, hotels, concert halls, plaza bands, etc., is broadcast. Of course, quite a few programmes are given from the studio, which is located in the heart of the city and in the centre of musical activities.

The construction of the station represents all that is most modern in radio station practice. The studio building is situated about 1,000 feet away from the station. In this building there are accommodations for the operating staff, as well as for three studios—one a general studio which is of the usual size; a smaller studio for speeches and solos, and a large studio which will accommodate at least forty musicians, and used principally for the orchestra broadcasts. The studios are equipped similarly to the American studios.

Two radio announcers are on hand constantly to announce the programmes as they go on the air. A. B. Muller speaks English, while Carlos Toomaska is the Spanish announcer. All announcements are made in these two languages.

The Impresa Venezolana de Radiotelefonos, which has the exclusive concession of radio in that country, after trying out a great many sets of European and other manufacture, has decided to use American sets almost exclusively. The sets are sold to the broadcast stations who must pay a monthly fee of about \$3.50 to the

broadcast station for the privilege of receiving its programmes. The sets are serviced by the operating company for a very slight charge. In this way the station can afford to engage the services of the finest artists and best features for broadcasting. Some advertising time is being sold.

While the static is terrible at certain times of the year it is possible nevertheless to get long distance reception and there are a number of fans who have heard as many as thirty-six American stations with the five and six-tube sets.

"It is a curious fact," says Mr. Scholtz, "that the high-class sets sell better than the cheaper ones, although there is a price range which would satisfy all classes of fans."

"This station is the only one operating in the northern part of South America and serves several other countries besides its own. 'It is possible,' said Mr. Scholtz, 'that the service of broadcasting may be extended by the Impresa Venezolana de Radiotelefonos, even to Maracaibo, where another station of equal power may be soon installed.'

### Watercooling Vital

Failure of the watercooling system for vacuum tubes in the modern radio broadcast station would bring serious consequences, were it not for the perfection of a simple piece of apparatus—the relay. At Westinghouse station KDKA, Pittsburgh, a water failure would cause a pressure governor to trip an electric relay, shutting down all generating and converting machinery, and cutting out plate, grid and filament in every step of the transmitting apparatus.

### Trapping Own Waves

The reception of time signals from the Government radio station at Arlington, for rebroadcast on KDKA's 303-metre wave entails an elaborate trapping and shielding system. The receiving set is located about 100 feet from the transmitting station and two sets of antennae—long and short wave. In order to bring in station NAA, Arlington, a wave trap for each wave band is installed before the receiving set. Outside wires are sheathed in lead cable; the apparatus is shielded by metallic screens. A covered cable carries the signals to KDKA's transmitter.

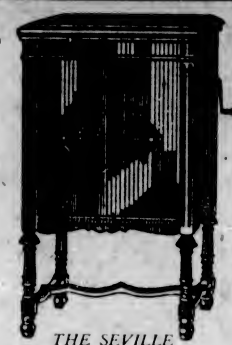
### Scots

England was merry England, when Old Christmas brought his sports again.

'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale,

'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale:

A Christmas gambol oft could cheer The poor man's heart through half the year.



\$155

\$12.50  
Cash

THE SEVILLE

## CHOOSE YOUR GIFT NOW

THINK of the supreme joy that will be yours on Christmas morning as the family gathers around your beautiful new Phonograph or Radio. Kent's make it easy for you to give the most sensible, the most practical, the most enjoyable gift that you can give.

### Ampliphonic "Consolette"

And 10 selections, 1,000 needles. CASH \$9.50.....\$8.00 Per Month

### Ampliphonic "Cordova"

And 10 selections, 1,000 needles. CASH \$10.50.....\$8.00 Per Month

### New Brunswick "Seville"

And 10 selections, 1,000 needles. CASH \$12.50.....\$11.00 Per Month

### New Brunswick "Rondo" (Console)

And 10 selections, 1,000 needles. CASH \$15.00.....\$12.00 Per Month

### New Brunswick "Madrid"

10 selections, 6 albums, 1,000 needles. CASH \$20.00.....\$15.00 Per Month

### Five-Tube "Crosley" Radio

Including Handsome Case, Batteries, Tubes, Cone Speaker, Etc., complete. CASH \$25.00.....\$10.00 Per Month

### Five-Tube "Fada"

Including complete equipment. CASH \$25.00.....\$14.00 Per Month

### Three-Tube "Fada"

Including complete equipment. CASH \$15.00.....\$9.00 Per Month

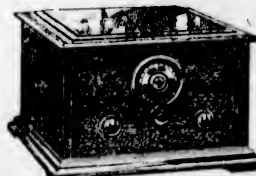
641 Yates  
Street  
Phone 3449

## KENT'S

Phonograph  
and Radio  
Store

## MAGNAVOX SINGLE DIAL Radio

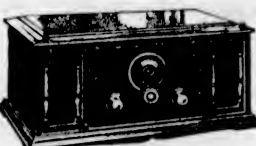
## For a Lifetime of Radio Entertainment



Junior Model—\$119.00

Beautiful mahogany cabinet. Same 5-tube circuit as all Magnavox models.

1. Single Dial Simplicity
2. Single Dial Efficiency
3. Single Dial Beauty



Model 10—\$154.00

Mahogany cabinet, space for B batteries.



Cone Speakers—\$31.00

Cornell model, covers entire tonal scale. Artistic non-resonant metal finish, two-toned mahogany base.

Single dial control, as perfected by Magnavox, gives you these three advantages in highest degree.

SIMPLICITY: One turn of one dial to select stations—no tedious tuning.

EFFICIENCY: Remarkable power and selectivity. Reproduction by Magnavox speaker assures utmost fidelity and tone quality.

BEAUTY: Numerous exposed dials and other mechanism discreetly absent. Smart, handsome, refined cabinets assuring permanency of style.

Continuous demonstrations. Deferred payments.

Exclusively Sold in Victoria and Vicinity by

## Hudson's Bay Company

INCORPORATED 27 MAY 1870



## TORONTO WATER TAPS USED AS RECEIVERS

Experts Puzzled at Untoward Action  
of Sink in Florist's  
Store

Canadian radio men are puzzled by the action of hot and cold water taps in a florist's shop in Toronto, which act as a radio receiver, with the metal sink as loud speaker. Concerts and speeches broadcast from Station CFCA, whose operating room is overhead, are plainly heard through this unique receiver.

Musical is received with much more volume than speech, although the latter can be heard at a distance of three feet when the speaker is talking with less than average force into the microphone. The operator of CFCA, E. J. Bowers, reports that one evening while a concert was being broadcast by remote control, the music could be heard very plainly outside the locked door of the shop, some ten feet away from the water tap.

The owner of the shop, when asked as to whether the continuous flow of music was likewise, replied that he did not find it so, and often came to the shop at night to hear a good concert. He has listened in this manner to church services broadcast through CFCA.

"The only time that it is bothersome," he said, "is when the radio and music store across the street opens up with its loud speaker and rebroadcasts above the noise of traffic. Then I am in between two fires."

Just what is the cause of this freak reception has not been definitely established. Samuel J. Ellis, radio inspector for the Toronto district, has investigated with telephone engineers in an effort to solve the mystery.

"We tested every pipe near by and in other parts of the building, but nowhere was the volume as great as at the tap. Nearby pipes would re-

cord to a slight extent when a fiddlestick was used," said Mr. Ellis.

This, Mr. Ellis explained, was a small wooden rod, some eighteen inches long and similar in appearance to an ordinary broomstick. One end had been sawed off diagonally and a small wooden disc, the size of one's ear, nailed onto it. The other end was grooved to fit on a pipe.

When the fiddlestick was placed against a pipe and held to the ear, music and speech were audible.

"It is either magnetism or mechanical vibration," said Mr. Ellis. "Just what it is we have not yet determined."

E. J. Bowers, operator of his broadcasting station, holds somewhat similar views. Since he explained that the station is in no way connected with the pipes, it being thoroughly grounded where necessary and the leads from the motor-generator to the tubes contain more than the required number of radio frequency chokes and by-pass condensers, it would seem that mechanical vibration is accountable for this "tap music."

The case has aroused considerable interest among Toronto radio fans. Reports from England tell of a similar case in which a metal lamp pole near Station 2LO, in London, acts in a like manner and daily brings crowds about it.

### New Foreign Stations

Among broadcasting installations announced recently are: AYRE, Caracas, Venezuela, 1,000 watts, 375 metres; Leipzig, Germany, 8,000 watts, 453 metres; CYC, Vera Cruz, Mexico, 327 metres; and others as yet unknown wave length and power at Sao Paulo, Brazil; Basel, Switzerland; and Montevideo, Uruguay. The first three stations fall within the American wave length band, and interference conditions permitting, may possibly be heard by American listeners with sensitive receivers, says Radio News Magazine.



### The Amplion Patrician— a perfect Christmas Gift

—reproducing the true gaiety of holiday music! Like all the world-famous Amplion Radio Reproducers, the Patrician is exceptionally rich in those delicate overtones which endow music with its real character and tonal beauty... Ask your dealer for a demonstration.

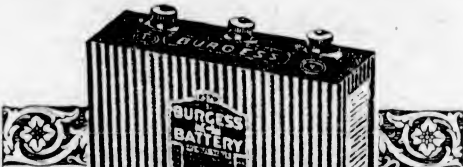
Amplion Reproducers \$12 to \$55

**AMPLION**

THE AMPLION CORPORATION OF CANADA LTD.  
Sole Distributors by

**Western Canada Radio Supply  
Limited**  
642 Fort Street Phone 1949

DISTRIBUTED BY  
**RADIO SALES SERVICE, LTD.**  
171 Cordova W. Vancouver, B. C. 1213 Wharf Street Victoria, B. C.



## Use a Burgess "C" Battery

### Because:

- 1 Burgess construction insures long life—the essential qualification of a "C" Battery.
- 2 A Burgess "C" Battery eliminates tube distortion—improves reception.
- 3 A Burgess "C" increases the life of your "B" Battery.

For sets requiring "C" Battery voltages, 9 Volts or less, use Burgess Battery No. 2370. Where higher voltages are required, use Burgess No. 5156. There are also special types of Burgess "C" Batteries for every radio need.

BURGESS DRY CELLS, LTD., WINNIPEG  
BRANCHES: CALGARY EDMONTON VANCOUVER

## BURGESS RADIO BATTERIES

VANCOUVER ISLAND DISTRIBUTORS  
**Revercomb Bros., Ltd. (Victoria)**  
Burgess Batteries Are Sold by All Radio Dealers

Distributed by  
**Radio Specialties, Ltd.**  
179 Pender St. W. Vancouver, B. C., Can.  
1004 Blanshard Street, Victoria

## Radio Programmes

### Sunday

**Pacific Standard Time Stations**  
CFMT, Victoria, B.C. (369.3m)—11 a.m. Service of the Holy Church Cathedral.  
7 p.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
CFMT, Vancouver, B.C. (410.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
7 p.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
CFMT, Seattle, Wash. (410.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
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CFMT, Portland, Ore. (410.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
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CFMT, Los Angeles, Cal. (410.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
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CFMT, Honolulu, Hawaii (410.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
7 p.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.

**Eastern Standard Time Stations**  
WABC, New York, N.Y. (340.7m)—11 a.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
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## SINGLE DIAL CONTROL



Elton Model: Five tubes, single dial. Artistic cabinet in two toned mahogany. Without accessories, \$160.

1. Single dial simplicity
2. Single dial efficiency
3. Single dial beauty

Single dial control, as perfected by Magnavox, gives you these three advantages in highest degree.

**SIMPLICITY:** One turn of one dial to select stations—no tedious tuning.

**EFFICIENCY:** Remarkable power and selectivity. Reproduction by Magnavox speaker assures utmost fidelity and tone quality.

**BEAUTY:** Numerous exposed dials and other mechanism discreetly absent. Smart, handsome, refined cabinets assuring permanency of style.

Continuous demonstrations. Deferred payments.

See Any Magnavox Dealer

Made by  
**THE MAGNAVOX CO., OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**  
Fifteenth Anniversary of Magnavox Progress in Radio

**MAGNAVOX**  
SINGLE DIAL Radio

Exclusively Sold in Victoria and Vicinity by

**Hudson's Bay Company**  
INCORPORATED 27th MAY 1870

### Monday

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7 p.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.  
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7 p.m. Organ recital from the Holy Church Cathedral.

# You can't find better Radio value anywhere!

THE Stewart-Warner new, low prices constitute better radio value than anything on the market today.

YOU have earned these low prices. Your preference for Stewart-Warner Matched-Unit Radio and correspondingly large production in the factory has enabled us to reduce prices to their present level.

Stop to consider—a high quality, 5 tube, 3 dial model—with the Stewart-Warner reputation and service back of it—for \$70.00—and there are other models at correspondingly low prices.

There is a Stewart-Warner dealer near you who will demonstrate this radio value for you. Get in touch with him today—don't wait.

**Stewart-Warner**  
Matched-Unit Radio

Dealers in every City and Town in the Dominion

**\$70.00**



MODEL 300

Price does not include accessories.

Instrument—Model 300  
+ Reproducer—Model 403  
+ 3 S-W Tubes—Model 501-A  
**Only \$101.25**

Instrument—Model 300  
+ Reproducer—Model 400  
+ 3 S-W Tubes—Model 501-A  
**Only \$108.75**

OTHER MODELS AT NEW LOW PRICES

STEWART-WARNER PRODUCTS SERVICE STATIONS  
TORONTO, MONTREAL, WINDSOR, REGINA, CALGARY,  
EDMONTON, VANCOUVER



## BASIC PRINCIPLES OF NEW RECEIVERS

Circuits Used in Radio Receiver Construction Show Little Basic Change

By The Associated Press  
Unlike the various electrical instruments they represent, circuits used in radio receiver construction have shown no great basic change since the wireless art emerged from the laboratory stage.

There have been elaborations and improvements without end but a diagram of the modern receiver shows that it is surprisingly similar to the earliest models. In fact the methods of coupling the circuit of one tube to that of another is practically the same today as it was when tubes were first devised. Other sections of the hook-up have changed only in keeping with the increasing number of tubes and other apparatus.

**Regenerative Discussed**  
One of the circuits first to become popular with the home building enthusiast was the regenerative. It had numerous variations. It still is in existence in the modern receiver, although somewhat disguised. It is now preceded, as a rule, with a step of tuned radio frequency amplification, retaining all of its advantages with added selectivity.

The five-tube tuned radio frequency receiver and its co-models of a greater number of tubes is another that has shown no revolutionary change. It consists entirely of a series of circuits known as the "simple audio" with various systems of oscillation control.

**Frequency Amplifier**  
The simple audio layout was first used with the development of the vacuum or audio tube. It provides a method of connecting the tube to its batteries and accompanying condensers and coils. Also it does not show a great difference from the wiring arrangement of a crystal set. In analyzing a modern eight-tube radio frequency amplifier the fact that it is merely an elaboration of the five-tube set is quickly apparent. It consists of a series of audio circuits with changes made to accommodate added equipment necessary to maintain the receiver in balance.

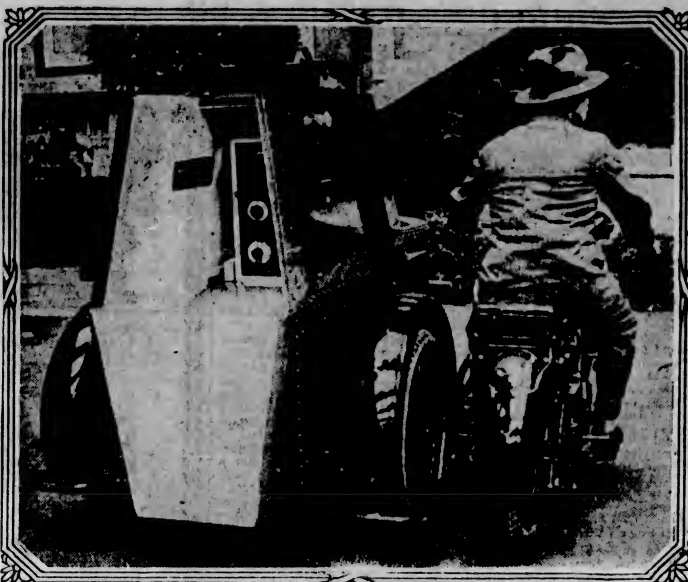
The super-heterodyne, which sprang into popularity along with the tuned radio frequency type, also goes back to the audio and the regenerative. These two are combined with long or short wave radio frequency amplification to the point where great selectivity and volume result. In some cases tuned radio frequency amplification has been added to improve the receiver.

The use of copper tubing in short-wave transmitting aerials makes it fairly simple for the broadcast station operator to vary the wavelength in an emergency. At KDKA, the Westinghouse station at Pittsburgh, the wavelength may be varied by inserting a copper rod in the tubing of the horizontal counterpoise. The variation depends on the distance the rod is pushed in.

The coast of China has been from time immemorial exposed to the ravages of typhoons, or typhoons of extreme violence, from the south. A new station of enormous power has been erected at Praya, an island eighty miles south of Hong Kong, from which it is hoped to detect the approach of storms (by the atmospheric produced) and out timely warning to the mainland.

God rest ye, little children; let nothing you afflict;  
For Jesus Christ, your Saviour, was born this happy night;  
Along the hills of Galilee the white flocks sleeping lay,  
When Christ, the Child of Nazareth, was born on Christmas Day.

## Portable Radio Outfit Is German Invention



A New German Invention Is This Portable Radio Receiving and Transmitting Apparatus, Housed in the Side Car of a Motorcycle. The Radio Apparatus Is Housed in an Armored Case, Which Serves the Dual Capacity of Protecting and Shielding. The Equipment for Both Transmitting and Receiving Is Entirely Self-Contained on the Vehicle, and the Set Is Ready for Use for Either Purpose by Simply Opening the Door of Its Case. Photo Shows a View of the New German Radio Transmitting and Receiving Apparatus.

## British Broadcasting Methods Are Explained

Change of Management Calls for Explanation by Authorities of Procedure in Control—Differences as Compared With This Continent

In view of the change of status of the British Broadcasting Company from a limited liability company to that of a chartered corporation the company has issued a brief summary of the activities of its share career.

Its first licence was dated January 18, 1922, which was to terminate at the end of that year, but was then extended to the end of 1926. To start with, eight transmitting stations were stipulated which eventually were expanded into nine main stations, the extra one being for Belfast, and eleven relay stations with a high-power station at Daventry.

Under the original licence fifty-two per cent of the licence income (a licence costs 10s.) was to come to the company, fifty per cent going to the postoffice to insure that the cost of collection should be covered.

**Licences Issued**  
The Sykes Committee, which was appointed to investigate the problem, realized that seventy-five per cent could be taken by the company and so it was recommended that up to the end of 1924 a seventy-five per cent share should go to the company and that after that date such proportion as should be arranged to give an adequate service. But broadcasting became so popular that the government saw in it a source of income and limited the amount to be taken by the company to £500,000. This hindered many improvements which it was intended to introduce.

The licences issued and the revenue received have been as follows:

Date	Licence	Total
Sept. 30, 1922	158,871	158,871
March 31, 1924	720,895	720,895
March 31, 1925	1,348,840	1,348,840
March 31, 1926	1,964,912	1,964,912

Staff of Seven Hundred

Date	Amount	Received	Retained
Sept. 31, 1922	£2,345,439	£1,172,719	£1,172,719
March 31, 1924	£5,084,000	£2,542,000	£2,542,000
March 31, 1925	£6,880,000	£3,440,000	£3,440,000
March 31, 1926	£9,820,000	£4,910,000	£4,910,000

A sidelight on the growth of radio-casting is provided by a survey of the rapid increase in correspondence. In 1923 the average number of letters received from listeners on all subjects was not greater than 300 per week.

Today, in London alone, an average of 3,600 letters per week are received; in the provinces about 3,500 in the weekly average. Thus a yearly total of some 730,000 letters from listeners is being handled.

When the company hands over to the corporation at the end of 1926 it will, after repaying its shareholders at par, be able to provide it with a complete organization, with the capital assets at a high state of efficiency, at no cost whatever to the new authority.

The next aim of the company is the

substitution of a new system of distribution which should enable every listener in the United Kingdom to have the choice of at least two programmes, available simultaneously, on the cheapest and simplest apparatus. This will require on the engineering side the erection of a number of new high-power stations, and on the programme side the provision of more highly specialized, varied, and more expensive programmes. The new organization may develop into ten main stations with medium high power, say, ten kilowatts, plus the Daventry station of thirty-five kilowatts.

London will probably have two stations and experiments have already been made to allow listeners to try separating simultaneous programmes from the old station at Marconi House and the new one in Oxford Street. Such a chain of transmitting stations should permit even crystal sets the alternative of two programmes.

## LOST MAGIC OF TOYS AT CHRISTMAS

Thrill of Creeping Out on Christmas Eve Has Almost Gone From Modern Childhood

Christmas looms up once again. With it come visions of the wonderful stores and the family reunion to attend which sons and daughters travel long distances. In the stores there are marvels to be bought. Yet looking round at the toyshops one wonders.

There seems everything that children could imagine or desire in the stores today except magic! Magic and mystery are not there. Toys, many of them costing many dollars, have taken the place of the things that we of the older generation had, costing cents.

On December afternoons we used to come back, glowing from the afternoon walk, talking excitedly about Christmas, to a room ruddy with fire-glow, to see mother and her friends shuffle something away into their work baskets. And in evenings sometimes we would interrupt a whispered conversation of thrilling parcels with mother and father with their heads together whispering about them.

And on Christmas Eve! How old were we when we ceased to believe in Santa Claus? Have we ceased to believe now? The thrill of it! A creak on the stairs in the old house. Eyes shut quickly—Santa Claus went come when you are awake. We opened our eyes when the shadowy form came in. Even when we were quite big and connected those knobby propped and mother's work basket with the beautiful wax doll dressed as a bride and the copies of "Pilgrim's Progress" with the midnight visitant we did not want to believe that it was mother and father.

But our children of today go to one or other of our big stores and buy their own toys. Nothing home-made; none of the magic of yore; none of the beauty of make-shift. "What do you want for Christmas?" we ask nowadays as though Christmas gifts were an obligation and not a joy and in just the same spirit demands are made. We don't any more believe in Santa Claus. As they say in the Punch Bowl in "Punching Buggy," "It isn't Santa Claus, it's Father!" And likely enough the children are the poorer for it.

The thrill of creeping out with the others at midnight on Christmas Eve, shivering as we went down the staircase which we knew was haunted, drawing the great bolt of the back door, pattering through the snow out to the cowshed that smelt so warm and sweet with hay, because we had been told by a very religious dairy-maid that, on the stroke of twelve, every horse and cow bowed its knee in homage to the new born King. They didn't. But we said that that was because the clocks were fast! They had done it. We had missed them.

Glass has come into high favor as an insulator at Westinghouse station KDKA, Pittsburgh. Pyrex glass insulates the heavy copper bands of the transmitter inductance coil, brass-tipped pyrex knobs support various condensers on the panel boards, and glass-air insulation has replaced through-the-wall types. The glass-air insulator consists of drilled bell jars placed on both sides of a circular aperture in the window glass. By bolting the bells together, with the bolt entering the aperture and the bells separated from the window glass by rubber gaskets, an effectively insulated binding post is obtained.

**FILLERS** . . . . . Ancient superstition declares it to be unlucky to carrying anything forth from the house on Christmas morning before something has been brought into it.

## Long Distance Transmitter On 11 Metres Unsuccessful

Repeated attempts throughout the current year by the Heligoland Naval Research Laboratory to communicate across the continent on a wave length of eleven metres during daylight have not been successful. Last March Dr. A. Hoyt Taylor, superintendent of radio at the Naval Research Laboratory, anticipated such an achievement when he said: "It is expected that this will be accomplished during May or June—or possibly even during the latter part of April, because the Kennelly-Heaviside layer will be somewhat lower at that time, which will so modify conditions as to make a shorter wave possible."

The future of these tests is all the more baffling when we are told that the Naval Research Laboratory has repeatedly communicated with the Radio Corporation of America station 9XA at Deaver, Col., on 11.8 metres. This transcontinental record on such a low wave length during daylight would seem to indicate that little wonder should be encountered in shoving off eight-tenths of a metre, but practical tests have dictated otherwise.

These interesting experiments, despite present failures, will continue in order to determine the minimum short wave of useful value for communication purposes over relatively long distances. It is not merely a "IX" game, but, in addition to determining the minimum low wave length of service for transcontinental traffic, these long distance tests are a part of elaborate studies in measuring the Kennelly-Heaviside layer and studying the skip distance effects or zones of silence when communicating on short waves. These experiments have already been productive of valuable changes in the future of both commercial, amateur, and broadcast radio transmission.

The short waves are now being utilized by a greater percentage of the commercial stations who formerly were forced to use comparatively tremendous power outputs to accomplish the same results on the long waves as are now an everyday accomplishment on the shorter frequencies below 100 metres. What the ultra-short waves below ten metres may hold depends largely on the tests and experiments

now being conducted, not only by the Navy Research Laboratory, but also by the Bureau of Standards, commercial companies and countless amateur experimenters.

When in doubt as to what kind of wire to use for an aerial, it will depend on where the aerial is to be erected. For an indoor one, not exposed to the weather, any kind of copper wire will answer the purpose. Even wire as small as No. 30 can be used, and it may be along the moulding, out of sight. For an out-door aerial it should be strong, and not less than No. 14, or stranded wire. The small wire would soon deteriorate.

Stretch the aerial wire tight enough so that there is little swaying in windy weather. Some little slack must, however, be left in order to ensure against the wire breaking from over-tension. One system of keeping the aerial taut, without putting an undue strain on it, consists in supporting one end by means of a counter-weighted rope passed through a pulley attached to the support.

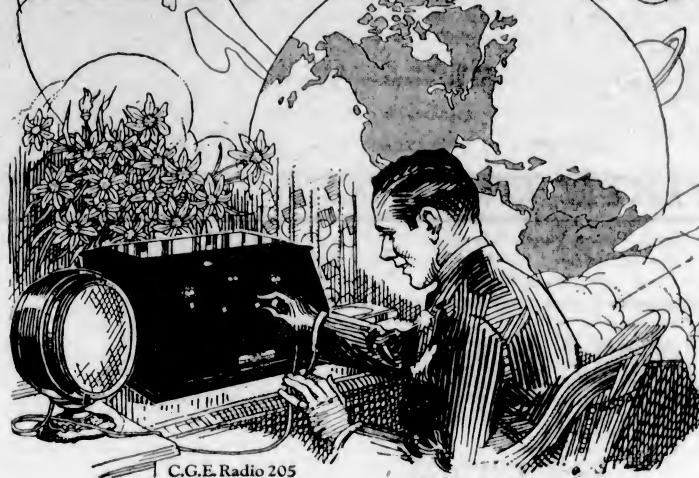
Lawell

"What means this glory round our feet?"

The Magi mused, "More bright than morn!"

And voices chanted clear and sweet, "Today the Prince of Peace is born."

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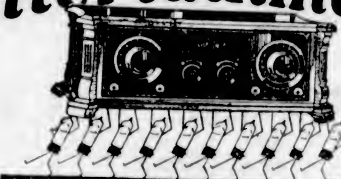
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## Yuletide Entertainment

brought in by TEN—  
Northern Electric  
Peanut Tubes



'Tis Christmas Eve. The firelight casts a soft glow over the quiet room. Then voices—silver voices from afar, joining in sweet harmony in the old carols—"Hark the Herald Angels Sing," "Merry Merry, Merry Christmas Bells," "Peace on Earth," and the ringing tones of a male chorus as they sing: "God Bless you, Merry Gentlemen." . . . Wonderful Yuletide entertainment, faithfully reproduced by the MERCURY SUPER-TEN. The Mercury with its Ten Peanut Tubes will operate any loud speaker without additional amplifiers. It is as selective as a telephone line and cuts out local stations in a degree or two on the dials. The Mercury is a wonderful loop aerial receiver and due to the directional qualities of a loop, interference from stations operating on approximately the same wave lengths is materially reduced. The Mercury stands in a class by itself for long distance reception and is the winner of the Silver Trophy for Summer Reception. Despite its giant power the Mercury is economical in current consumption. The Ten Peanut Tubes use less battery current than two ordinary audio bulbs.

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**MERCURY SUPER-TEN**

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April 12th, 1926.

The H. M. Kipp Co., Limited,  
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Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sirs—  
I received the MERCURY SUPER-TEN on the 2nd of March and must say that I am more than delighted with it. I do not think that you sound half its praises in your advertising matter. I can speak from experience, when I say that the set will do all that you say that it will, and more.

All who have seen the set admire it very much, both for its wonderful compactness and size. It seems incredible that so much power can emanate from the set. Our piano and cabinet grand gramophones are having quite a rest now since we can get such wonderful results from the all-around power of the MERCURY SUPER-TEN.

I am never tired of sounding its praises to the many people that have already called in to see it; and if I can put any business in the way I will be only too glad to do so.

Again, thanking you, very sincerely,  
Yours most sincerely,  
"J. G. C."

(Name on request)







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### SAYS FANS MAY HEAR EUROPE ON NEW YEAR

Engineer Believes It May Be Possible to Hear 1927 Music From Europe in 1926

Dancing in America in 1926 to music broadcast in Europe in 1927 ought to give American radio fans their newest thrill, in the opinion of Eric J. T. Moore, prominent Australian radio engineer, who has just arrived in New York.

Mr. Moore's prophecy was prompted by an unusual incident that marked his passage across the Pacific Ocean on the steamship Niagara.

"One Saturday night I listened to a

programme broadcast Sunday night," he stated, with a smile.

The concert came from a station in Brisbane and the ship was passing the 180th meridian, which accounts for the difference in time.

"It should be easy, by radio relay, at least," Mr. Moore continued, "for Americans to enjoy the New Year a little ahead of time, if a European programme is reproduced. On December 31, at 7 o'clock here, it will be midnight in London, and in a moment 1927 will be heralded. Perhaps you will recall that Londoners in 1925 danced to music broadcast from Berlin in 1926, there being an hour's difference in time."

Watch the grate fire on Christmas morning. If it burns brightly, it betokens prosperity, if it smoulders, adversity.

## World Is Indebted to Marconi for Invention

In Face of Inconceivable Difficulties Blessed Man-kind in a Thousand Ways—Failing to Interest Italian Government, Marconi Went to England

Guglielmo Marconi first saw light at Bologna on April 25, 1874, of Italian-Italian parentage, and was educated at the Leghorn Technical School, studying under Professor Rosa. After leaving the technical school he went to the University of Bologna, where he came into contact with Righi, who had, for a long time, studied the Hertzian waves. The young Marconi had for some years been keenly interested in and saw the possibilities of using these waves for the transmission of messages. Experimenting at Griffone in 1895, he very soon found that the Hertzian method gave, at a distance, signals that were very weak, but by the substitution of a vertical wire he was able to get transmission at a distance of a mile and a half. During this time he also improved the coherers of Branly and Onesti.

#### The Patent Body

This early apparatus, from which has sprung the far-flung wireless chain of the present, consisted of a coherer, a relay, a decoder and a Morse printing instrument, all working with accumulators. Between the coherer and the relay he interposed choke coils, which had a very marked effect on the receptivity of his set. By attending very closely to the details of his system, he was enabled to carry his signals on at greater ranges than any other experimenter had, up to that time, accomplished.

In these early efforts Marconi used a transmitting apparatus consisting of a large spark gap, to which was connected the earth wire and the aerial, the high-tension current for the spark being provided through an induction coil and batteries. A ball discharger of four brass balls was used as the spark gap, the two middle balls of which were separated by a small space filled with vaseline oil. The actual spark jumping from the two end balls to the middle ones and through the vaseline produced the high-frequency spark.

#### England Interested

In 1896, after he had failed to interest the Italian Government in his scheme, he went to England, where he took out the very first patent granted for a practical system of wireless telegraphy. A number of experiments were made at Westbourne Park, and he laid his projects before Sir William Preece and other high officials of the Postoffice.

These were very well received, and successful tests took place between Penarth and Weston, although the Postmaster-General, after testing this new method, declared that it was liable to be limited in application. Almost immediately after he increased the range of his set to a distance of nine miles, using a twenty-inch spark coil and kites to raise the vertical aerials, and in July, 1897, tests were made at Spezia by the Italian Minister of Marine. During these tests twelve miles between warships was covered. He also began to install a number of his sets for light-

houses, and so successful were his experiments that they led to stations being erected for the corporation of Trinity House. This year also saw the formation of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, Limited.

#### The First Proofs

During the next two years progress went on satisfactorily, signals being eventually exchanged across the English Channel, and in 1899 one of the first proofs of the advantage of wireless over other forms of communication came to be recognized. This was the occasion of saving of life in the case of the ship R. F. Matthews, which was unfortunate enough to run into the Lighthouse on the East Goodwin. Luckily, however, the lighthouse was equipped with one of the Marconi transmitting sets, and was thus enabled to get in touch with the lighthouse at the South Foreland and summon assistance. About this time he was able to see his system pretty generally established in the British and Italian navies.

#### Increased Distance

From then onwards Marconi continually increased the distance at which he could communicate, also the speed of telegraphing. Up to 1901 he had been using half a kilowatt of power, but in that year he erected the station at Poldhu, in Cornwall, and increased the power to twelve kilowatts. On December 12, 1901, signals were received in Newfoundland from the Poldhu station, over a distance of some 2,200 miles, and finally on December 19, 1902, messages were sent between Cornwall and his permanent station erected at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, which was the first occasion of transatlantic transmission.

Previous to December he had maintained, in February, communication between the transatlantic steamship Philadelphia and Poldhu, a distance, in the case of letter signals of 2,099 miles, and for actual messages a distance of 1,551 miles being attained.

In 1903 items of news were transmitted between America and Great Britain, for the use of The London Times, and also between Poldhu and the steamship Lucania during the entire crossing, so that passengers on that vessel could keep in touch with events.

#### Nautical Newspaper

In 1904, overseas transmission having been made both efficient and reliable, the Cunard Line were able to publish a daily newspaper, with European and American news.

And so the record of achievement went on until, in 1907, a limited commercial service across the Atlantic was put into operation for public use, and from that time increased until it has reached its present-day dimensions. In June, 1915, he was put in charge of the Italian wireless operation when Italy entered the war.

#### Genius of Marconi

To use the words of another writer: "The genius of Marconi lies not so

much in his inventions as in his far-sightedness in being the first man to realize the immense commercial possibilities of wireless, and to make the best use of all the scientific effort of his time to further the object he had in view." There is no doubt but that it is greatly due to him that the advance has been so rapid and so far, and we may indeed be thankful for his unceasing efforts, especially when made in the face of criticism and ridicule in his early experiments.—Western Radio Review.

### Radio Sole Winter Communication to Far North Priests

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 11.—People often ask the Rev. Father Turquetil, bishop of Hudson's Bay, if he gets news of his missionaries in the Arctic. His reply is always:

"No; we cannot get word from them before May, 1927."

"But could they get our letters, if we write to them?" he is asked.

"Not now," he replies, "but only in May, next Spring, though letters must be mailed before Christmas in order to reach the dog teams which carry them over the 1,200 miles of unorganized territory. Some of the fathers cannot send or receive anything during the whole winter. They live a solitary, lonely and isolated life amid snow and ice on the barren land."

Bishop Turquetil believes in the radio—in its power to compass the barren wastes of winter's stronghold. He believes reverently in the good of the four Westinghouse stations inaugurated last week for the benefit of these isolated dwellers. For the four dark months of winter each of the Westinghouse stations—KDKA, Pittsburgh; KYW, Chicago; WBZ, Springfield, Mass., and KFKX, Hastings, Neb.—will offer one programme, including messages to the inhabitants of the lonely northern posts and official business which cannot otherwise be transmitted. Station WBZ, with its first programme last Saturday, completed the first cycle of the broadcasts. The next one scheduled is December 18, from KYW; followed by KFKX, on Christmas Eve, and KDKA on Christmas night.

"For a while," the Bishop continues, "there will be no distance, no loneliness. Everyone will enjoy hearing himself called, the same as if it were a telephone call; everyone will be so happy to feel in direct, close touch with home. And again, every week of the winter months."

Bishop Turquetil knows what it means to "a man who lives in the lonely Arctic" to receive welcome words from "the other world."

**Charles Kellogg, Singer,  
Blows Out Gas by Radio**

This old-fashioned trick has been made quite safe for the operator, as evidenced a few days ago at San Francisco, when a demonstration was made before University of California students. Charles Kellogg, a singer of exceedingly high-pitched voice, broadcast a sustained note, and at twelve miles the reproduction of the sound from the loud speaker extinguished a gas jet, set so that the flame would respond by vibrations to the exact tone sounded. The principle has long been known in physics, but never before demonstrated by radio.



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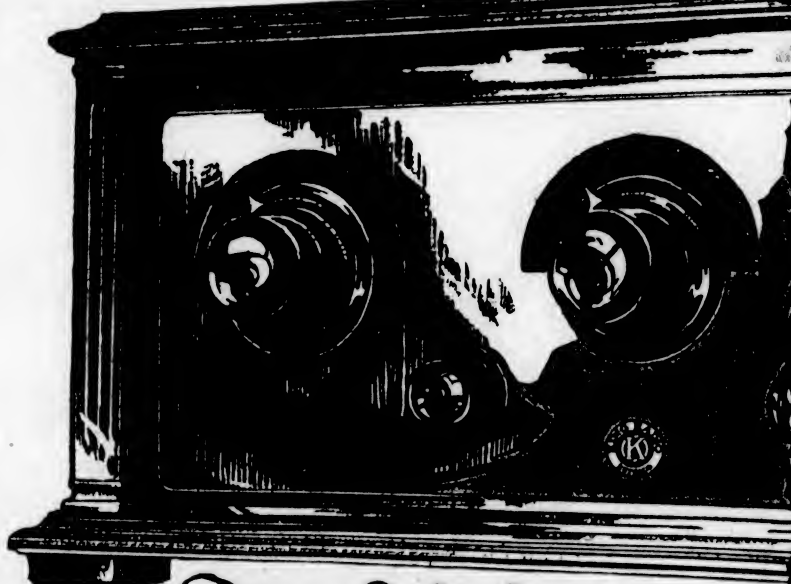
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